

UTAH OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

REMARKS: WELL LOG  ELECTRIC LOGS   WATER SANDS LOCATION INSPECTED  SUB. REPORT/abd

970324 LA'D off March 20, 1997

DATE FILED JULY 10, 1995

LAND: FEE & PATENTED STATE LEASE NO. PUBLIC LEASE NO. U-24446 INDIAN

DRILLING APPROVED: JULY 5, 1995

SPUDDED IN:

COMPLETED: PUT TO PRODUCING:

INITIAL PRODUCTION:

GRAVITY A.P.I.

GOR:

PRODUCING ZONES:

TOTAL DEPTH:

WELL ELEVATION:

DATE ABANDONED: 3.20.97 LA

FIELD: WILDCAT FIELD

UNIT: TABLE TOP UNIT

COUNTY: SUMMIT

WELL NO. TABLE TOP UNIT TTU-1 API NO. 43-043-30312

LOCATION 244' FSL FT. FROM (N) (S) LINE. 1161' FWL FT. FROM (E) (W) LINE. SW SW 1/4 - 1/4 SEC. 16

TWP.	RGE.	SEC.	OPERATOR	TWP.	RGE.	SEC.	OPERATOR
1N	10E	16	AMERAC ENERGY CORP				

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, DEEPEN, OR PLUG BACK

1a. TYPE OF WORK  
DRILL  DEEPEN  PLUG BACK

b. TYPE OF WELL  
OIL WELL  GAS WELL  OTHER   
SINGLE ZONE  MULTIPLE ZONE

2. NAME OF OPERATOR  
CHEVRON U.S.A. PRODUCTION CO. *Amerac Energy Corporation*

3. ADDRESS OF OPERATOR  
*700 Louisiana St. 3330 Houston, TX 77002-2730*

4. LOCATION OF WELL (Report location clearly and in accordance with any State requirements.)  
At surface: *244' PSL, 1161' FWL*  
At proposed prod. zone: *SW 1/4 SW 1/4*

14. DISTANCE IN MILES AND DIRECTION FROM NEAREST TOWN OR POST OFFICE+ APPROXIMATELY 27 MILES SOUTHEAST OF EVANSTON, WYOMING  
DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING

15. DISTANCE FROM PROPOSED+ LOCATION TO NEAREST PROPERTY OR LEASE LINE, FT. 244'  
16. NO. OF ACRES IN LEASE 960  
17. NO. OF ACRES ASSIGNED TO THIS WELL NA  
18. DISTANCE FROM PROPOSED LOCATION+ TO NEAREST WELL, DRILLING, COMPLETED, OR APPLIED FOR, ON THIS LEASE, FT. NA  
19. PROPOSED DEPTH 17,000'  
20. ROTARY OR CABLE TOOLS ROTARY  
21. ELEVATIONS (Show whether DR, FT, GR, etc.) 9650' GL  
22. APPROX. DATE WORK WILL START+ SEPTEMBER 15, 1993

PROPOSED CASING AND CEMENTING PROGRAM

SIZE OF HOLE	SIZE OF CASING	WEIGHT PER FOOT	SETTING DEPTH	QUANTITY OF CEMENT
24"	20"	94#	80'	TO SURFACE
17.5"	13.275"	54.5#	5000'	TO SURFACE
12.25"	9.625"	36#	12,700'	TO 5,000'
8.25"	7"	26#	17,000'	TO 12,000'

BE ADVISED THAT *Amerac Energy Corporation* CHEVRON U.S.A. PRODUCTION CO. IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE OPERATOR OF WELL NO. CHEVRON FEDERAL 1-16, SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH, LEASE NO. U - 24446 AND IS RESPONSIBLE UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE LEASE FOR THE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED ON THE LEASED LANDS.

BOND COVERAGE FOR THIS WELL IS PROVIDED BY NATIONWIDE BOND NO. 8 89 35 82 31 STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA AND ITS WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY CHEVRON U.S.A. PRODUCTION CO., AS CO-PRINCIPALS) VIA SURETY CONSENT AS PROVIDED FOR IN 43 CFR 3104.2.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

IN ABOVE SPACE DESCRIBE PROPOSED PROGRAM: If proposal is to deepen or plug back, give data on present productive zone and proposed new productive zone. If proposal is to drill or deepen directionally, give pertinent data on subsurface locations and measured and true vertical depths. Give blowout preventer program, if any.

24. SIGNED *J. Watson* TITLE PERMIT SPECIALIST DATE *6/8/92*  
(This space for Federal or State office use)  
PERMIT NO. *43-043-30312* APPROVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY: \_\_\_\_\_  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
WELL SPACING: \_\_\_\_\_

+See Instructions On Reverse Side

WORKSHEET  
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL

APD RECEIVED: 06/11/92

API NO. ASSIGNED: 43-043-30312

WELL NAME: TABLE TOP UNIT TTU 1  
 OPERATOR: AMERAC ENERGY CORP (N33<sup>3</sup>20)

PROPOSED LOCATION:  
 SWSW 16 - T01N - R10E  
 SURFACE: 0244-FSL-1161-FWL  
 BOTTOM: 0244-FSL-1161-FWL  
 SUMMIT COUNTY  
 WILDCAT FIELD (001)

INSPECT LOCATION BY: / /		
TECH REVIEW	Initials	Date
Engineering		
Geology		
Surface		

LEASE TYPE: FED  
 LEASE NUMBER: U - 24446

PROPOSED PRODUCING FORMATION: MRSN

RECEIVED AND/OR REVIEWED:

- Y Plat
- Y Bond: Federal  State  Fee   
 (Number \_\_\_\_\_)
- N Potash (Y/N)
- N Oil shale (Y/N)
- N Water permit  
 (Number \_\_\_\_\_)
- N RDCC Review (Y/N)  
 (Date: \_\_\_\_\_)

LOCATION AND SITING:

- UTC 58784 X*
- R649-2-3. Unit: ~~PROPOSED~~
  - R649-3-2. General.
  - R649-3-3. Exception.
  - Drilling Unit.
  - Board Cause no: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Date: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

STIPULATIONS: 1. A WATER PERMIT WILL BE REQUIRED  
PRIOR TO START.



## TABLE TOP PROSPECT PROJECT Project Update

January 1992

As you know from our September 1991 project newsletter, Chevron USA, Inc. (Chevron) proposes to drill and test an exploratory oil well in the North Slope of the Uinta Mountains located within the boundaries of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest (Forest). The Table Top Prospect Project is located approximately 40 miles south of Evanston, Wyoming (in Summit County, Utah) and the access route from Highway 150 is Stillwater Road to Peninsula Road to a new road that would be constructed. (Refer to project area map.) Our previous newsletter provided a description of the proposed project, a statement of the purpose and need for the project, a brief explanation of the environmental studies to be conducted, and a request for comments on the project.

The purpose of this second project newsletter is to report on the comments received and update the public on the status of the project.

### RESULTS OF THE SCOPING PROCESS

Integral to the environmental process is the solicitation of comments from the various Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested organizations and individuals to assist in incorporating the most accurate and current environmental information and public opinion into planning and decision-making. The initial opportunity to comment on the Table Top Prospect Project was "scoping", an information-gathering process open to the public early in the project. The comments received assisted in identifying the range, or scope, of issues and concerns to be addressed during the environmental studies in preparation for the environmental document.

In early September, 1991, we mailed our first project newsletter (scoping document) to the 227 parties on the project mailing list. On September 17, 1991, a notice of our intent to prepare an environmental analysis was published in the Federal Register. This notice initiated the 30-day scoping period.

A total of 116 commentors responded to the solicitation. A concise summary of the comments follows.

A number of commentors expressed support for the project. They expressed that North Slope of the Uinta Mountains has a high potential for yielding oil and gas. The project area is located on public land administered by the Forest Service and is designated for multiple uses. The opinion of many individuals is that exploration, development, and production of oil and gas are compatible with other uses of the land.

Some felt development of domestic oil and gas reserves is important to offset and reduce US dependence on foreign energy sources. A discovery and potential ensuing production could lead to further oil and gas development in the region. They believe this increase in production would result in economic benefits (for example; employment, goods, services, tax revenues) for the State of Utah, refineries in Salt Lake City, and nearby communities in Wyoming (particularly Evanston).

Many expressed that appropriate mitigation measures should be imposed and enforced by the Forest Service to preserve the environmental resources. Commentors suggested that responsible oil companies have demonstrated their willingness to be environmentally conscious and compliant on projects in sensitive settings similar to this project and believe that Chevron would respond similarly on this project.

Some commentors expressed opinions regarding the future use of the proposed access road. Some individuals want the proposed access road to remain open for recreational access and other uses (for example; forest management and designated uses) into the area, which has not been readily accessible in the past. Other individuals suggested that the road be closed to all but essential traffic and, upon abandonment of the well, the road should be closed entirely and reclaimed. Another individual suggested that the proposed location of the road be reconsidered and located to access the area from the Hayden Fork side.

A number of commentors expressed opposition to the project. Many of these individuals are opposed to the project since it is in an environmentally sensitive roadless area known for its scenic qualities, wildlife habitat, and recreation. They believe that the project would seriously impact these values and further the degradation of the area. Others

expressed the opinion that this project should be analyzed as part of larger analysis to address cumulative effects within the region rather than as individual project decisions.

Also, concern was expressed about water quality and quantity. Some expressed concern that ground disturbance from construction could result in sedimentation in the drainage resulting in impacts to the aquatic habitat. Some expressed that potential oil spill(s) from the site could endanger the Stillwater drainage and water quality. Others were concerned that drilling and testing could alter the water supply for Christmas Meadows summer homes.

At this time we have identified the following issues from public comments:

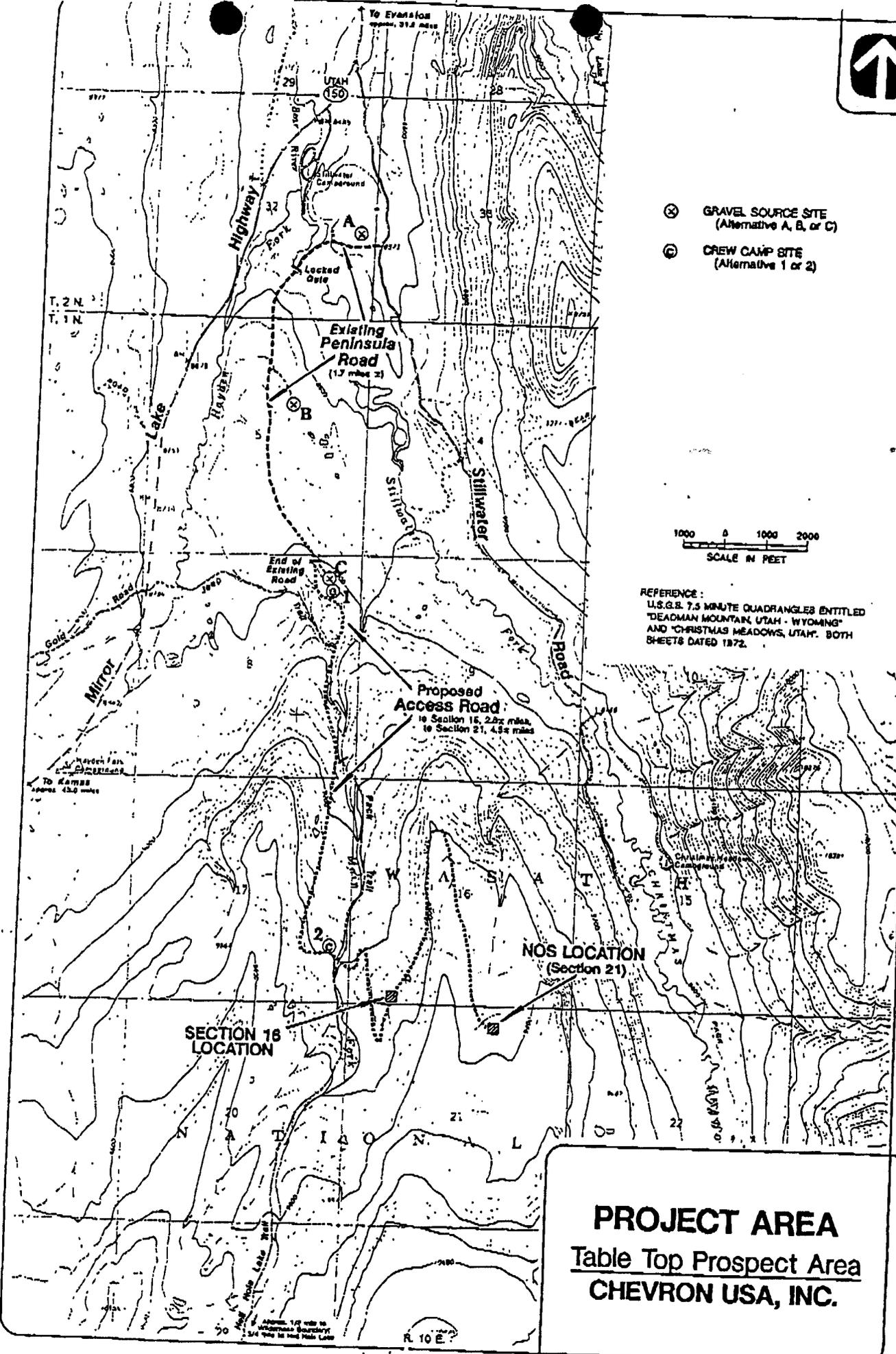
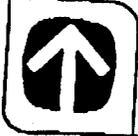
- What effects will the project have on water quality in the Stillwater drainage?
- How will the project affect the values and characteristics of the roadless area?
- What effects will the project have on visual quality from different vantage points (including the Mirror Lake Highway)?
- How will the proposed access road be managed in the future?
- Will the project have an effect on the water supply to the Christmas Meadows summer-home area?
- How will the project affect wildlife species within the area?
- How will the project affect local (Evanston & Salt Lake) and state economies?
- How will the project affect existing recreation use in the area?

Other comments received were not identified as significant issues to be analyzed. Some will be addressed in the EIS as management requirements that must be followed by Chevron. Others were beyond the scope of this analysis.

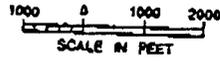
#### PROJECT STATUS

Project personnel from the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Supervisor's Office and the Evanston Ranger District met on October 31, 1991, to review the public comments and determine the appropriate NEPA document. The decision to proceed with the documentation of the environmental analysis with an environmental impact statement (EIS) was based on a review of the regulations which discuss significance and when an EIS should be prepared. Public comments demonstrated a wide range of concern over effects of introducing a road into a roadless area. This controversy over effects led to a decision that an EIS was appropriate. A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was published in the *Federal Register* on January 8, 1992. Public comments will be accepted until January 31. All previous comments received during the initial scoping period, which ended October 4, 1991, will be used in the preparation of the EIS, therefore, it is not necessary to respond again unless you have additional comments. At this time, we anticipate that the draft EIS will be distributed for public review and comment March 1992.

We appreciate your interest in this project and value your input. For further information, please contact Mr. Bernard Asay at (307) 789-3194. Submit any additional comments to Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, P.O. Box 1880, Evanston, WY, 82931-1880. Remember, you'll also have an opportunity to comment on the analysis during the DEIS review.



- ⊗ GRAVEL SOURCE SITE (Alternative A, B, or C)
- ⊙ CREW CAMP SITE (Alternative 1 or 2)



REFERENCE:  
 U.S.G.S. 7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLES ENTITLED  
 "DEADMAN MOUNTAIN, UTAH - WYOMING"  
 AND "CHRISTMAS MEADOWS, UTAH". BOTH  
 SHEETS DATED 1972.

NOS LOCATION  
 (Section 21)

SECTION 16  
 LOCATION

**PROJECT AREA**  
Table Top Prospect Area  
**CHEVRON USA, INC.**

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. (Chevron) proposes to drill and test an exploratory well in the North Slope of the Uinta Mountains located in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The project site is located approximately 40 miles south of Evanston, Wyoming and the access route from Highway 150 is Stillwater Road to Peninsula Road to a road that will be constructed.

Chevron initiated the permitting process by filing a Notice of Staking (NOS) on January 12, 1989. The desired drillsite location was situated on a portion of Chevron's federal lease U-54044 which is designated as No Surface Occupancy (NSO). Thereafter, an amended NOS was filed on March 31, 1989 which situated the drillsite on a portion of U-54044 located outside of the NOS area. This amended NOS refers to a drillsite in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 21, T1N-R10E, Summit County, Utah.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the so-called Table Top Unit effective as of March 1, 1989. The approval of this 23,577.04  $\pm$ -acre unit included the obligation for Chevron, as unit operator, to drill an exploratory well to test the upper 100 feet of the Frontier formation or to a depth of -13,765 feet, whichever is the lesser. This project description describes the drilling of the initial test well obligated by the BLM's approval of the Table Top Unit.

An onsite inspection of the drillsite took place on July 22, 1991. At that time representatives from the Forest-Service (FS), BLM and Chevron visited the proposed drillsite and its access and identified impacts that require analysis in the project's Environment Impact Statement (EIS). It was estimated that access to the proposed drillsite would require construction of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles of road.

An alternate drillsite was also visited during the onsite located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 16, T1N-R10E. Access to this alternate site would require approximately 3 miles of new road construction. Access and other impacts associated with the preferred and alternate drillsite will be analyzed in the EIS.

In either event, the ultimate drillsite, including the reserve pit area, will be 3.3 acres in size, situated in a rectangular configuration with a width of 300 feet and length of 475 feet. Equipment associated with the drilling operations, i.e., the portable drilling rig, mud system, etc., will be located at the drillsite and the site itself will be fenced with a sheep tight, woven wire fence topped with two strands of barbed wire.

The drilling program must be approved in advance by the BLM and is expected to be approximately six months in duration. All safety equipment will meet or exceed industry standards and all aspects of the project will be conducted in compliance with regulations and conditions imposed by the BLM and FS. The reserve pit will be lined with impervious material to prevent contamination of the soil and groundwater. Trash and solid wastes will be removed from the site and hauled to a location outside of the Forest for proper disposal.

If the exploratory project does not discover hydrocarbons in commercial quantities, then Chevron will permanently plug the well in accordance with BLM regulations, all equipment will be removed and the drillsite, its access and any borrow sites will be reclaimed in accordance with a reclamation plan to be agreed to in advance of any construction. The site and access will be reseeded with a seed mixture that approximates the pre-project conditions and the drillsite's woven wire fence will be removed after the soils have been stabilized by revegetation. Original grades will be restored to the extent possible.



## TABLE TOP PROSPECT PROJECT Request for Public Comments

September 1991

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Chevron USA, Inc. (Chevron) proposes to drill and test an exploratory well in the North Slope of the Uinta Mountains located in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest (Forest). The project, referred to as the Table Top Prospect, is located approximately 40 miles south of Evanston, Wyoming (in Summit County, Utah) and the access route from Highway 150 is Stillwater Road to Peninsula Road to a new road that would be constructed.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the public of the intent to consider Chevron's request and conduct the environmental analysis as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and to solicit comments from the public on the project.

### PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

This action is consistent with the United States government's energy and land use policies to explore for and develop domestic oil resources to reduce the need for foreign oil. The proposed action is a method whereby the lessee would be allowed to exercise the rights granted within the lease to explore for and possibly develop oil and gas resources underlying the leased lands, as long as these rights can be exercised in an environmentally responsible manner and accomplished in conformance with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Plan of 1985 (Forest Plan).

### OVERVIEW: How Oil and Gas Leases Are Developed on National Forests

Generally, oil and gas activities progress through five basic phases: (1) preliminary investigations, (2) exploratory drilling on oil and gas leases, (3) testing and evaluation, (4) development and production, and (5) abandonment. Preliminary investigations include geological and geophysical exploration to identify geologic characteristics that may indicate reservoir(s) of oil or gas. If sufficient potential for oil or gas is evident, a company may want to explore further. Positive results from these tests may lead to the preparation of an Application for a Permit to Drill (APD). Once the appropriate leases and other permits are obtained, exploratory drilling and testing may begin. The process usually begins by precisely staking the location. Then in preparation for the drilling rig, the site is cleared of vegetation and a level pad is constructed to accommodate the drill rig, mud pumps, reserve pit, generators pipe rack, and tool house. Well pads are typically two to five acres. If a well successfully produces oil, a Surface Use Plan of Operations (SUPO) would have to be prepared to address the production phase. The life of a producing field is 15 to 20 years. Wells are plugged and abandoned upon depletion of the resource. The pad is reclaimed and appropriate vegetation planted. The access road is reclaimed unless the Forest needs to use it for other activities.

### PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed action in this case is to construct an access road to and drill and test an exploratory well on Chevron's lease UT-54044. Chevron initiated the permitting process by filing a notice of staking (NOS) on March 31, 1989, and is presently preparing an APD and SUPO with the intention of drilling an exploratory oil well in Township 1 North, Range 10 East, NW 1/4, NE 1/4 Section 21, located in Chevron's Federal lease UT-54044. Approximately 4.5 miles of access road would have to be constructed. This "Section 21" location is currently Chevron's proposed drillsite. An alternative site in the same lease is located in Township 1 North, Range 10 East, SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of Section 16 also will be considered. Recent geophysical studies indicate that this "Section 16" site may prove to be more geologically and environmentally acceptable than the Section 21 location. The Section 16 location would require approximately 3 miles of new access road. If this location is selected as the preferred alternative, based on the NEPA analysis, the SUPO would apply to this site. The analysis will address the drilling and potential production of this well. Should a discovery be made, additional NEPA analysis would be completed to address the development.

The selected site, including the reserve pit area, would be 3.3 acres in size, situated in a rectangular configuration with a width of 300 feet and length of 475 feet. The reserve pit would be lined with impervious material to prevent contamination of the soil and groundwater. Equipment associated with the drilling operations would be located at the drillsite and the site itself would be fenced with a sheep-tight, woven-wire fence topped with two strands of barbed wire. The drilling program is expected to last approximately six months. All aspects of the project will be conducted in

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compliance with regulations and conditions imposed by the BLM and Forest Service (while the lease is on National Forest System lands, mineral leases on all Federal lands are administered by the BLM).

If oil and/or gas is not discovered in commercial quantities, then Chevron would permanently plug the well in accordance with BLM regulations, all equipment will be removed and the drillsite, its access, and any borrow sites would be reclaimed in accordance with a reclamation plan to be agreed to in advance of any construction. If oil and/or gas is discovered in commercial quantities, Chevron would coordinate with the BLM and Forest to initiate the appropriate procedures, including any further environmental analysis needed, to seek approval for production.

#### **PROJECT STUDIES**

In accordance with NEPA, the Forest Service is responsible for overseeing the completion of environmental studies and preparation of an environmental document. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest serves as the lead agency and the BLM, Salt Lake District, serves as a cooperating agency. The objective of the environmental studies is to comprehensively study the effects on the human, natural, and cultural environments that would be caused by the construction and operation of the access road and exploratory well pad, to explore the impacts of the alternatives to the proposed action, and to develop ways to avoid or reduce any potential impacts to the sensitive features of the environment. The studies will address the:

**Human Environment** - existing and planned surface uses; such as recreation, grazing, timber, and other uses; scenic or visual characteristics of the local landscape as affected by the project; social and economic effects

**Natural Environment** - earth resources, such as geology, soils, air, and water resources; biological resources including wildlife, vegetation, and threatened and endangered species of plants and animals; wetlands, riparian areas

**Cultural Environment** - prehistoric and historic cultural resources

As part of the environmental analysis, it will be determined whether the proposed action is in conformance with the direction of the Forest Plan. The Forest Plan established forest-wide, multiple use goals and objectives for defined management areas; the North Slope Management Area in this case. Management direction relevant to this project is provided beginning on page IV-74 of the Forest Plan and includes direction to coordinate development of mineral resources with management of recreation opportunities and visual quality objectives, protection of cultural resources and water quality, the needs of wildlife, and others. Standards and guidelines for protection of surface resources would be implemented as appropriate.

The consulting firm of Dames & Moore has been selected by Chevron and approved by the Forest Service to conduct the environmental studies and assist the Forest Service and BLM in preparing the environmental document.

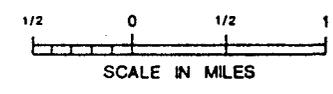
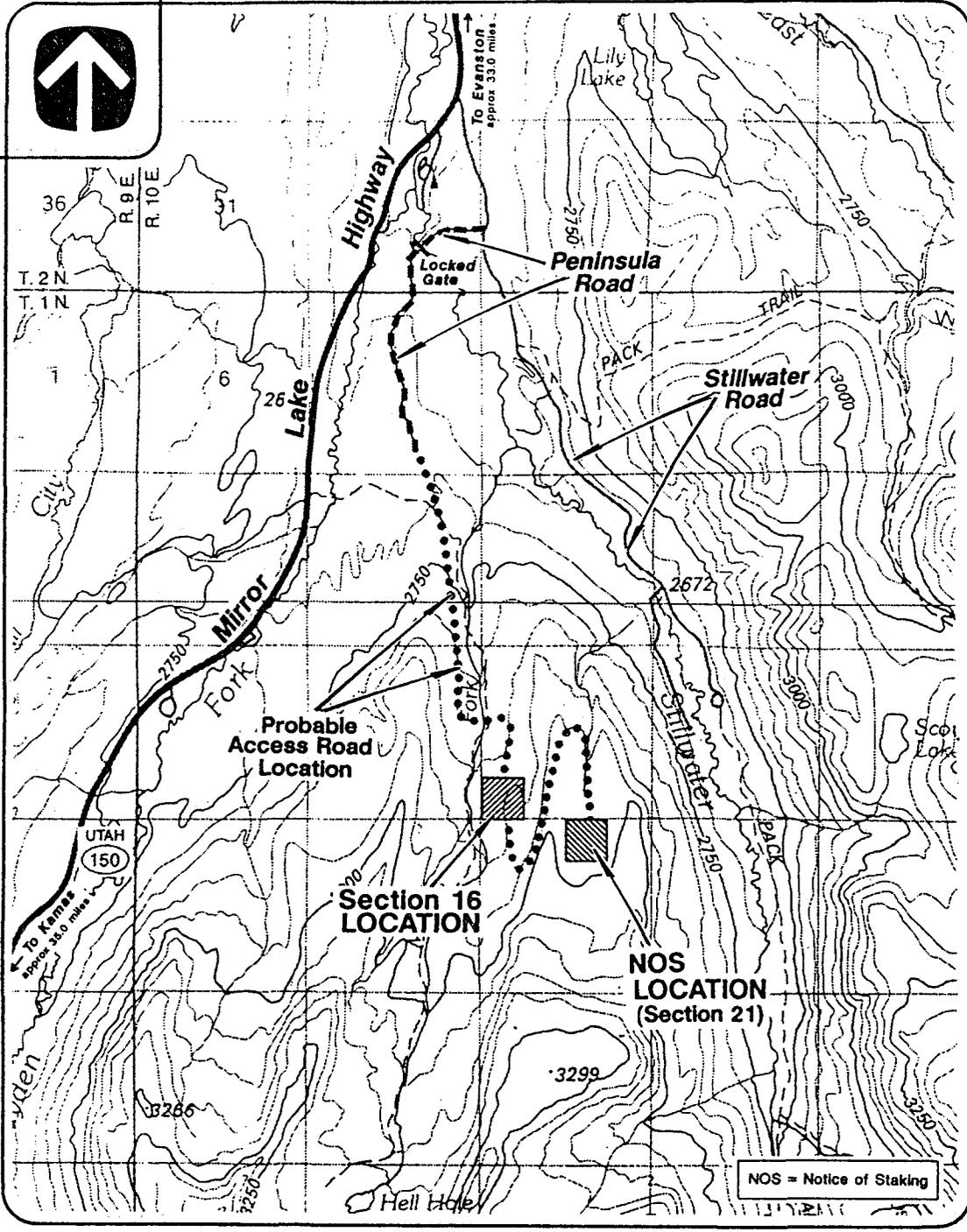
#### **SCOPING AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

Integral to the environmental process is the solicitation of comments from the various Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested organizations and individuals to assure that the most accurate and current environmental information and public opinion are incorporated into planning and decision-making. This is the initial opportunity to comment on the project. The Forest Service is providing this project information to the public at an early stage for the public to offer comments. The comments will assist in identifying the scope of issues and concerns to be addressed during the environmental studies in preparation of the environmental document. Preliminary issues and concerns have been identified by the Forest and BLM, and include (but are not limited to) conformance with the Forest Plan, water quality, cultural resources, visual resources, roadless area management, and conflicts with recreation uses.

A response sheet has been provided for all interested agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit questions, comments, and suggestions regarding the scope of the project. Please submit your comments by October 4, 1991. Those interested in receiving information over the course of the project should send names and addresses to be included on the project mailing list. We appreciate your time and effort in taking an interest in this project. We look forward to your continued involvement.

For further information on the Table Top Prospect Project contact Mr. Bernard Asay, Project Manager, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, 1565 Hwy. 150, Suite A, Evanston, Wyoming, 82930, (307) 789-3194.

H-7



REFERENCE -  
 U.S. G.S. 1 : 100,000-SCALE METRIC  
 SERIES TOPOGRAPHIC MAP ENTITLED  
 "KINGS PEAK, UTAH-WYOMING" - 1982.

**PROJECT AREA**  
**Table Top Prospect Project**  
**CHEVRON USA, INC.**



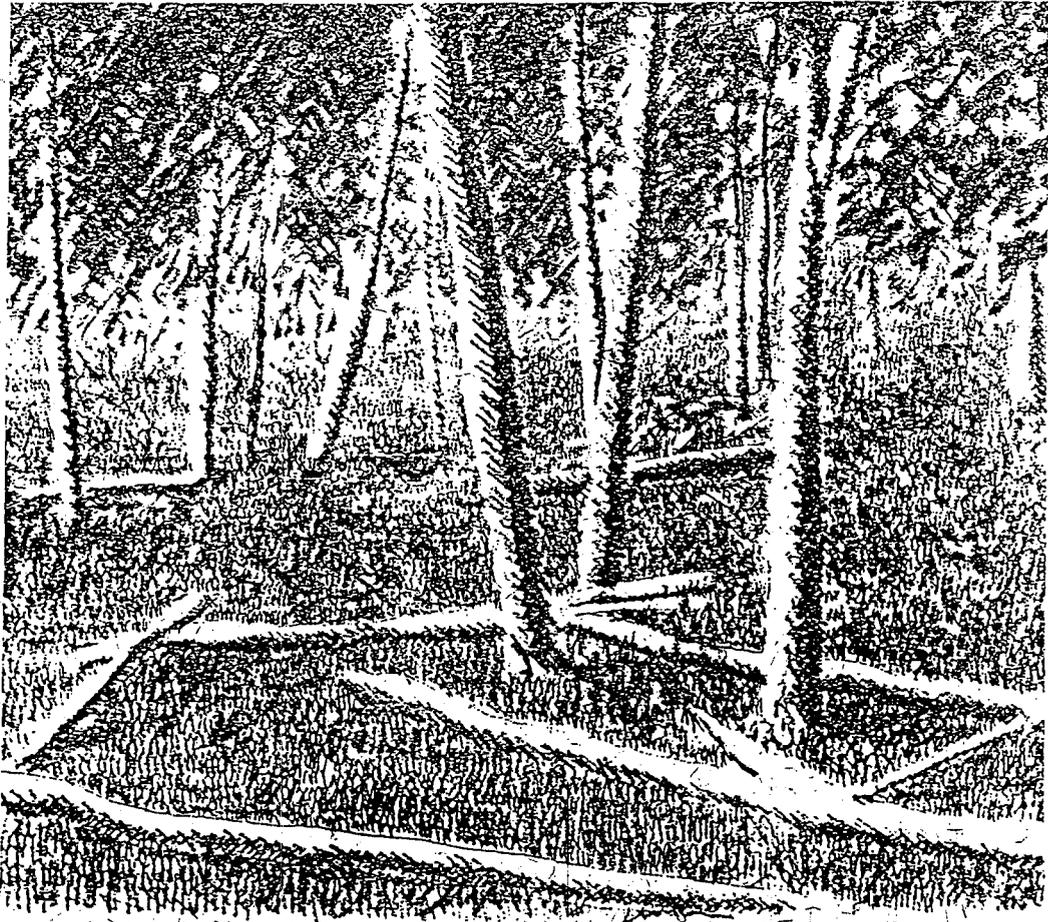


United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



Forest Service

Draft  
Environmental Impact Statement  
**EXPLORATORY OIL WELL**  
**CHEVRON TABLE TOP PROSPECT**



Wasatch-Cache National Forest

October 1992

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Chevron USA, Inc.  
Table Top Prospect Exploratory Oil Well

**Lead Agency:** USDA Forest Service  
Wasatch-Cache National Forest

**Cooperating Agency:** USDI Bureau Of Land Management  
Salt Lake District

**Responsible Official:** Susan Giannettino  
Forest Supervisor  
Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
8230 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138

**For Further Information:** Bernard Asay  
Evanston Ranger District  
1536 Highway 150, Suite A  
Evanston, Wy 82930  
(307) 789-3194

### ABSTRACT

This Environmental Impact Statement documents the analysis of the potential effects of developing an exploratory oil well, Chevron Table Top Prospect, oil and gas lease UT-24446, on lands administered by the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Summit County, Utah. The existing condition of the environmental resources in the project area is documented and potential impacts to those resources as a result of implementing the proposed action are addressed.

October 1992

# TABLE TOP PROSPECT PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT SUMMARY

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An Application for Permit to Drill (APD) has been submitted by Chevron U.S.A. Production Company (Chevron), a division of Chevron U.S.A., Inc. (Chevron) to exercise their lease rights and drill an exploratory oil and gas well on the Evanston Ranger District of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The proposed well would be located within the main fork of the Stillwater drainage in T1N R10E SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 16, Summit County, Utah.

The proposed exploratory well would be drilled on Federal oil and gas lease U-24446 to determine if oil and gas reserves occur in geologic formations underlying the lease, and if so, whether or not they are economically recoverable.

Chevron's proposed action includes:

- drilling, completing, and testing, and possible production at, a single exploratory oil well on 3.43 acres in T1N R10E SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 16.
- restoring 0.8 mile of Stillwater Road (Forest Road No. 057), improving 2.1 miles of Peninsula Road (Forest Road No. 306), relocating 2.0 miles of the Main Fork Road, and constructing 0.8 mile of new road to the proposed well site
- constructing a .5-acre gravel source pit in T1N R10E NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 8 to provide gravel to surface the existing and new road and well pad
- graveling 5.7 miles of the road into the well site and the 3.43-acre well pad
- drilling a temporary water well on the well pad to provide water for drilling and dust control
- reclaiming all surface disturbance at the well site if the well is not successful

The Forest Service, as the surface management agency, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), who is responsible for the management of the Federal mineral estate, have identified the need to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate and disclose the potential impacts to the environment that could result from the proposed action and identified alternatives to that action.

If approved, the activities associated with the proposed action would begin in July or August of 1993 and would be completed by early 1994. Reclamation would begin upon completion of activities, depending on weather conditions.

## PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the proposed exploratory well is to determine whether or not economically recoverable reserves of oil and/or gas are present within the geologic formations underlying this lease and within the Table Top Exploratory Unit.

Exploration and development of Federal minerals by private companies or individuals is authorized and encouraged by the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 and the Federal Land

Management Policy Act of 1976 (FLPMA). Federal mineral leasing encourages development of domestic oil reserves in an effort to reduce the United States' (US) dependence on foreign energy sources. Chevron's proposed action is consistent with the US government's energy and land use policy.

The purpose of this analysis is to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental effects associated with the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action. This analysis does not make a decision, but provides relevant information for public review and comment and from which the deciding officers can make sound resource decisions.

## SCOPE OF THIS ANALYSIS

This analysis only addresses the proposed action of drilling an exploratory well and associated surface uses. The facilities that would be needed to produce this one well are addressed, should economically recoverable reserves of oil and gas be discovered, but full-field development is not part of the proposal and will not be addressed at this time. The proposed action involves an exploratory well and the majority of wells in this category do not result in a field discovery. Should this well result in a field discovery, an additional analysis would be completed at that time, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), which would address full-field development.

## DECISIONS TO BE MADE

The Forest Supervisor is the Forest Service official responsible for making the following decisions and ensuring that the decisions are consistent with current regulations, the Forest Plan direction, and with the rights granted by the Federal oil and gas lease; as required by 36 CFR 228.107:

- whether or not to approve the Surface Use Plan of Operations
- means of access to the well site
- future management of the road to the well site (if access is by road)

The District Manager of the Salt Lake District of the BLM is the official responsible for approving the Application for Permit to Drill (APD), and any subsequent changes or modifications of the APD requested by submission of a Sundry Notice.

## RELATION TO FOREST PLAN

The Forest Plan, approved in September of 1985, guides all natural resource management activities and establishes long-term management standards and guidelines for the Forest. The Forest Plan describes resource management practices, levels of resource production and management, and the availability and suitability of lands for resource management. Generally, the Forest Plan provides for coordinated multiple-use management of timber, range, wildlife, watershed, developed and dispersed outdoor recreation, minerals, and wilderness resulting in

sustained yields of goods and services. It is important to note that no site-specific or project-specific decisions are made in or by the Forest Plan.

This analysis is tiered to the EIS completed for the Wasatch-Cache Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). The leases addressed in this EIS were issued prior to the development of the Forest Plan and Forest Plan standards and guidelines would be applied to the extent that lease rights are not violated.

## SCOPING

Integral to and initiating the environmental analysis process is the solicitation of comments from the various Federal, State, County, and local agencies, and interested organizations and individuals to assist in incorporating the most accurate and current environmental information and public opinion into planning and decision-making. The initial opportunity to comment on the project was "scoping" - an information-gathering process open to the public early in the process.

In early September, 1991, the Forest mailed a scoping document, in the form of a newsletter, to the 227 parties on the project mailing list. On September 17, 1991, a Notice of Intent to conduct environmental analysis was published in the Federal Register. The scoping period ended in early October, 1991.

A total of 116 commentors responded to the solicitation. The comments received were reviewed and summarized, and assisted in identifying the range, or scope, of issues and concerns to be addressed during the environmental studies in preparation of the environmental document. The comments ranged from full support of the project to strong opposition. Issues identified from the comments are listed below.

**Issue 1 - The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on local and state economies** Concerns were expressed regarding the effects of this project and potential subsequent oil projects (primarily production), to local, State, and Federal economies. Development would provide economic benefits; from tax revenues, jobs, goods and services; for the affected State and local economies, as well as the Federal government. Such benefits would alleviate tax burdens and provide needed funds for the affected communities. Also, the increase in domestic production of energy resources would reduce the United States' dependence on foreign energy resources.

Other concerns were expressed that the potential economic benefits would be negligible compared to the potential effects to the natural resource values of the area.

**Issue 2 - The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on the values and characteristics of the roadless area** Concerns were expressed regarding the potential impacts to the roadless area. Some individuals believe that new roads in the area would result in increased human intrusion and cause irreparable change to the roadless area. They believe that the values of solitude provided by the area are unique and should not be affected.

**Issue 3 - The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on wildlife species and habitat** Concerns were expressed regarding the potential effects to the wildlife and habitat of the area, which is presently undiminished.

**Issue 4 - The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on existing recreation uses in the area** Concerns were expressed that the effects of the project would alter the recreational setting and experience presently provided by the area. Roads introduced into the area would provide access for vehicles and promote increased human activity. Recreationists favoring rustic, dispersed recreation opportunities believe that the uses of recreation and the drilling and

production of the oil well are incompatible and oppose development in this area. Expressed in relation to this concern, were the effects of this project on other resources such as wildlife, habitat, water, etc. (which are included in discussions of other issues).

Other recreationists favor the opportunity for increased access into these areas – leaving roads open to the public, reclaiming the well site upon completion of project activities, and developing recreation sites such as trailheads.

**Issue 5 – The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on road management in the future** As mentioned previously, some individuals expressed concern that roads introduced in the area would provide access for vehicles and promote increased human activity – resulting in both direct and indirect impacts to the area.

Other recreationists favor the opportunity for increased access into these areas – leaving roads open to the public.

**Issue 6 – The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on water quality in the Stillwater drainage** Concerns were expressed that ground-disturbing activities associated with the project (construction, drilling, and production) would disturb soils and could cause consequent effects on soils and water. Potential effects to soils include compaction, displacement, and loss of vegetation cover resulting in erosion. Soil-disturbing activities such as construction and vehicular traffic, could result in erosion or other displacement of soils (for example, at stream crossings) may cause sedimentation in streams with consequent degradation of water quality and aquatic habitat (for example, fisheries).

Other effects to water quality could result in contamination of ground and surface water from possible fuel and/or oil spills.

**Issue 7 – The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on the aesthetic and visual characteristics of the area** Concerns were expressed regarding the effects of project activities on the natural beauty of the area, particularly from the Mirror Lake Highway. Some comments addressed the temporary nature of the activities that are considered most obtrusive to the character of the area (that is, primarily drilling).

**Issue 8 – The effects of drilling and production of the oil well on the water supply to the Christmas Meadows summer-home area** Concerns were expressed regarding the potential effects of project activities on the quantity of nearby spring water used to for domestic use by the residents of the Christmas Meadows summer-home area.

Other comments received were not identified as significant issues to be analyzed. Some of the comments will be addressed in this EIS as management requirements that must be followed by Chevron. Other comments were beyond the scope of this analysis (for example, full-field development).

Following review and analysis of the comments received, project personnel from the Forest met on October 31, 1991, to discuss the issues and determine the type of documentation needed. Public comments demonstrated a wide range of concern over effects of introducing a road into a roadless area. The controversy over the effects led to an agreement and decision to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) rather than an environmental assessment. A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on January 8, 1992. Public comments were accepted until January 31, 1992. These comments plus comments received during the scoping period were used in directing the preparation of the EIS.

Upon completion of the draft EIS (DEIS), the DEIS will be released for public review and comment on the adequacy of the document. During the 45-day review period, the Forest will conduct public meetings to receive comments. At the end of the 45-day period, the written and oral comments will be reviewed, summarized, and evaluated. The comments and responses to those comments will be included in the final EIS.

## ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY

One other alternative for a well site location close to existing heavily used roads was considered. Any well site location closer to existing, more heavily used roads would be further removed from the target geologic structure and greatly increased the risk of a dry hole.

Two alternative road locations were considered and eliminated from detailed study because of environmental impacts. One alternative would have begun at the Mirror Lake Highway and crossed the Hayden Fork and connected into the Main Fork road. The second alternative would have started at the end of the Peninsula Road, crossed the Main Fork immediately, and then proceeded along the bench on the east side of the Main Fork to reach the proposed well site in Section 16.

Helicopter access was considered as an alternative, but eliminated from detailed study. No model of helicopter exists that is capable of lifting a drill rig as large as the one required for this project at the elevation of the sites.

Four alternative gravel sources were considered and eliminated from detailed study. Hauling gravel from Evanston was eliminated from study because it was considered unnecessary and costly. Three other gravel sources in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project were eliminated from detailed study because they did not contain adequate clay, to use as a binder for the fines.

Construction of a crew camp was considered and eliminated from detailed study in favor of the crew commuting to and from Evanston on a daily basis.

## ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED IN DETAIL

Alternatives addressed in this document include the no-action alternative, two alternative well sites, and alternatives for road management.

A summary of the disturbance by acres is provided on Table S-1.

**TABLE S-1**  
**SUMMARY OF DISTURBANCE**  
(Acres)

<u>Project Component</u>	<u>Alternative Well Site A</u>	<u>Alternative Well Site B</u>
Road Restoration	.77	.77
Road Improvement	2.04	2.04
Road Relocation	7.27	7.27
Road Construction	2.9	9.68
Gravel Source	.5	.5
Well Site	3.43	3.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16.91</b>	<b>23.76</b>

Note: Road width disturbance estimated to be: eight feet for road restoration and improvement, 30 feet for road relocation and construction on slopes less than 40 percent, and 50 feet for construction on slopes over 40 percent.

### AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Data were collected for the following resources: geology, minerals, soils, surface and ground water, vegetation, wetlands, threatened and endangered plant and animal species, wildlife, fisheries, air quality, land uses, transportation, recreation, range, timber, roadless areas, visuals, socioeconomics, and cultural resources.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Project components common to the action alternatives include 4.98 miles of road work, the gravel source, and a temporary above-ground water pipeline (if constructed). The road work, whether restoration, improvement, relocation, or construction, would result in removal of vegetation. The road design would incorporate Forest road-design criteria and specifications to ensure a quality road and road maintenance. The road would be capped with gravel to reduce the potential for erosion. Early in the road work, a temporary bridge would be placed over the Main Fork. This would allow transport of vehicles and equipment to the east side of the Main Fork without an in-stream crossing that would result in sedimentation. Once crossed, a bridge satisfying Forest Service standards would be constructed.

The Peninsula Road, including the road along the Main Fork, would remain open to the public to the point where the new bridge would be installed. The portion of the road east of the new bridge would be closed to public traffic at all times.

Sightings of and the potential for the occurrence of northern goshawk in the study area prompted a survey in June of 1992. One nest was found in the vicinity of the Stillwater Road. At the time just prior to construction, if the nest is occupied, construction activities would not be allowed within a 645-foot radius of the nest.

A number of wetland areas occur in the vicinity of the project area. The results of survey

delineation, and mapping, completed in July of 1992, indicated that some of the wetlands would be impacted where the road is relatively close to wetland seeps. These wetland areas would be avoided, to the extent possible, by the road and construction activities. On a case-by-case basis, the road would be placed and constructed in such a manner that drainages to and/or from the wetland areas are not intercepted or affected.

The road would have to cross one wetland area in Section 17. Mitigation has been recommended. Chevron and the Forest have been coordinating with the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and will submit project development plans to the COE for review and approval prior to construction.

The .5-acre gravel source would be located at the end of the existing Peninsula Road and would provide between 5,000 and 7,000 cubic yards of material for capping the road and the well pad. When developing the gravel source site, topsoil would be stockpiled for the short time the site would be in use (about three weeks). When the work is completed and the gravel source is no longer needed, the site would be reclaimed.

No threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species were found during a survey conducted for this project in July of 1992.

If the water well at the well site does not supply sufficient amounts of water, a temporary 3-inch-diameter, 1,500-foot-long pipeline would be installed above ground from the Main Fork to the well site. No vegetation would be removed. It is anticipated that, although vegetation would be crushed, the roots would be left intact allowing the vegetation to regenerate quickly.

### No Action

Under this alternative, the environment would remain as it exists with no well site or road constructed. However, with this alternative the primitive road crossing the Hayden Fork would remain. Currently, erosion from vehicle ruts in the adjacent road and the in-stream crossing of the Hayden Fork contribute to sedimentation in the stream.

### Alternative Well Site A

Construction of the well pad (3.43 acres), road work (12.98 acres), and gravel source (.5 acre) would result in 16.91 acres of disturbance. Inherent erosion hazards are low to moderate for all disturbance. Vegetation is primarily mature post- and pole-size lodgepole pine. At the well site and along the road, approximately 12 to 14 acres of mature age class lodgepole pine would be removed. The effects of removing habitat would be essentially the same at either site.

To access Alternative Well Site A, a total of 4.98 miles of road work would be required. Of that 4.98 miles, .8 mile of the work would be construction of new road. The well pad and .8 mile of new road would be within the roadless area. The drilling rig would be only slightly visible during daylight from a point on the Mirror Lake Highway about 3.5 miles north of the site. At night, the lights from the drilling rig would be noticeable, but not dominant. The drilling rig would be visible

for approximately 2.5 miles from the Hell Hole Lake Trail and from the Main Fork Road. However, the impacts would be short term (only while the drilling rig is present). Production facilities, if needed, would be screened from view.

Construction of the well site would not result in impacts to cultural resources.

### **Alternative Well Site B**

Construction of the well pad (about 3.5 acres), road work (19.76 acres), and gravel source (.5 acre) would result in 23.76 acres of disturbance. Inherent erosion hazards at the well site are low to moderate; however, the portion of the road along the ridge to the site are mountain slope lands on shallow soils on slope gradients ranging from 35 to 70 percent. Erosion and stability hazards are moderate to high, construction hazard potential is high, and reclamation constraints are moderate to high. The alternative well site is located in an extensive wet meadow complex that would require extensive mitigation to develop. Vegetation is primarily mature lodgepole pine. At the well site, vegetation also includes wet meadow species of alpine timothy, tall larkspur, bluejoint reedgrass, and sedges, and subalpine fir along the wet meadow are interspersed among the scattered strands of trees. At the well site and along the road, approximately eight or nine acres of mature age class lodgepole pine would be removed. The effects of removing habitat would be essentially the same at either site.

To access Alternative Well Site B, a total of 7.3 miles of road work would be required. Of that 7.3 miles, 2.4 miles of the work would be construction of new road. The well pad and 2.4 miles of new road would be within the roadless area. The drilling rig would not be visible from the Mirror Lake Highway, Stillwater, Peninsula, or Main Fork roads. At one point (at similar elevation) along the Hell Hole Lake Trail, the drilling rig may be visible. As previously stated, impacts would be short term (only while the drilling rig is present). Production facilities would be screened from view. The portion of the road to the site that would be located on the side of the steep slope may be visible from the Mirror Lake Highway approximately 3.5 miles to the north.

Construction of the well site would not result in impacts to cultural resources.

### **CONFORMANCE WITH THE FOREST PLAN**

The proposed action with the planned mitigation measures has been analyzed and found to be in conformance with the Forest Plan, goals, management direction, and standards and guidelines.

### **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USE AND LONG TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

Long-term productivity refers to the capability of the forest to provide resources in the future.

Land used and maintained for roads would no longer produce vegetation. Roads left open and not revegetated after use would provide future access for resource management. Roads closed can be reclaimed and returned to near-preconstruction conditions.

## IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

An irreversible commitment of resources refers to the loss of production or use of a resource due to a land use decision that, once executed, cannot be changed. An irretrievable commitment of resources for a period of time.

Minor amounts of soil loss and displacement would occur as a result of any action alternatives.

Roads left in place and in a useable condition for future vehicle access needs would remove about two acres per mile of vegetation from production (that is; trees would not be regenerated and grown on these acres). However, roads can be reclaimed to near-preconstruction conditions.

Both alternative well site locations would commit a small portion of an area without roads to development of roads and the well pad. The values of this area would be lost and recovered unless the roads were reclaimed and returned to near-preconstruction conditions and the area is once again roadless.

## CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

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An Application for Permit to Drill (APD) was submitted by Chevron U.S.A. Production Company (Chevron), a division of Chevron U.S.A., Inc. to the Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District, on June 12, 1992, to exercise their lease rights and drill an exploratory oil and gas well on the Evanston Ranger District of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The proposed well would be located within the main fork of the Stillwater drainage in T1N R10E SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 16, Summit County, Utah (refer to Figures 1-1 and 1-2).

The proposed exploratory well would be drilled on Federal oil and gas lease U-24446 to determine if oil and gas reserves occur in geologic formations underlying the lease, and if so, whether or not they are economically recoverable.

Chevron's proposed action includes:

- drilling, completing, and testing, and possible production at, a single exploratory oil well on 3.43 acres in T1N R10E SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 16
- restoring 0.8 mile of Stillwater Road (Forest Road No. 057), improving 2.1 miles of Peninsula Road (Forest Road No. 306), relocating 2.0 miles of the Main Fork Road, and constructing 0.8 mile of new road to the proposed well site
- constructing a .5-acre gravel source pit in T1N R10E NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 8 to provide gravel to surface the existing and new road and well pad
- graveling 5.7 miles of the road into the well site and the 3.43-acre well pad
- drilling a temporary water well on the well pad to provide water for drilling and dust control
- reclaiming all surface disturbance at the well site if the well is not successful

The Forest Service, as the surface management agency, in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), who is responsible for the management of the Federal mineral estate, have identified the need to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate and disclose the potential impacts to the environment that could result from the proposed action and identified alternatives to that action.

If approved, the activities associated with the proposed action would begin in July or August of 1993 (depending on weather conditions) and would be completed by early 1994. Reclamation would begin upon completion of activities.

### PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the proposed exploratory well is to determine whether or not economically recoverable reserves of oil and/or gas are present within the geologic formations underlying this lease and within the Table Top Exploratory Unit.

Exploration and development of Federal minerals by private companies or individuals is authorized and encouraged by the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 and the Federal Land Management Policy Act of 1976 (FLPMA). Federal mineral leasing encourages development of

domestic oil reserves in an effort to reduce the United States' (US) dependence on foreign energy sources. Chevron's proposed action is consistent with the US government's energy and land use policy.

The purpose of this analysis is to evaluate and disclose the potential environmental effects associated with the proposed action and alternatives to the proposed action. This analysis does not make a decision, but provides relevant information for public review and comment and from which the deciding officers can make informed resource decisions.

## SCOPE OF THIS ANALYSIS

This analysis only addresses the proposed action of drilling an exploratory well and associated surface uses. The facilities that would be needed to produce this one well are addressed, should economically recoverable reserves of oil and gas be discovered, but full-field development is not part of the proposal and will not be addressed at this time. The proposed action involves an exploratory well and the majority of wells in this category do not result in a field discovery. Should this well result in a field discovery, an additional analysis would be completed at that time, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), which would address full-field development.

## DECISIONS TO BE MADE

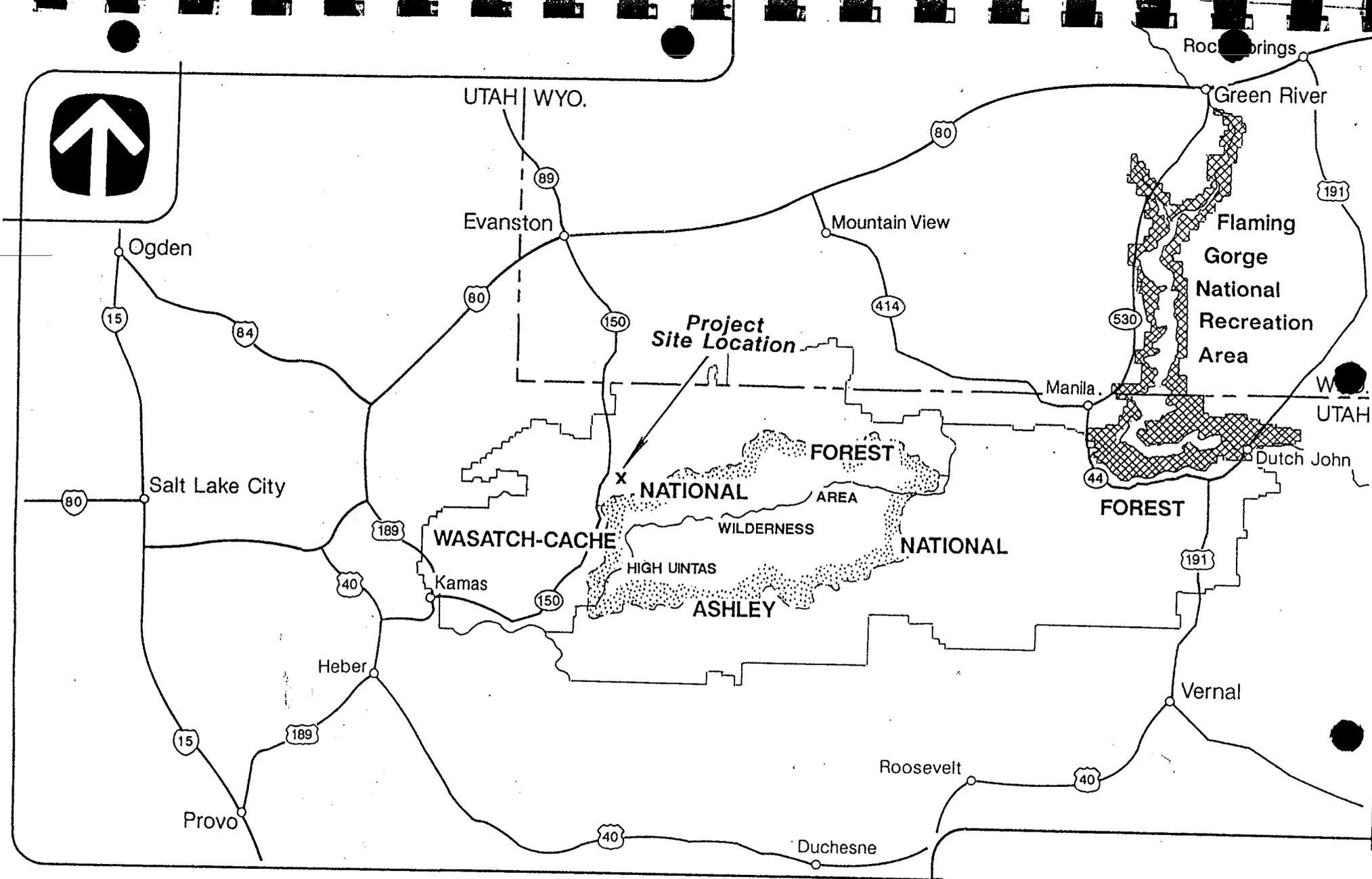
The Forest Supervisor is the Forest Service official responsible for making the following decisions and ensuring that the decisions are consistent with current regulations, the Forest Plan direction, and with the rights granted by the Federal oil and gas lease; as required by 36 CFR 228.107:

- whether or not to approve the Surface Use Plan of Operations
- means of access to the well site
- future management of the road to the well site (if access is by road)

The District Manager of the Salt Lake District of the BLM is the official responsible for approving the Application for Permit to Drill (APD), and any subsequent changes or modifications of the APD requested by submission of a Sundry Notice.

## AUTHORIZING ACTIONS

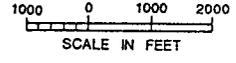
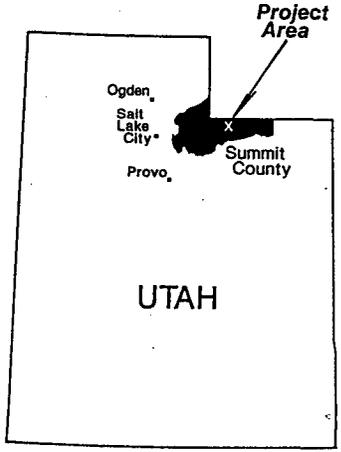
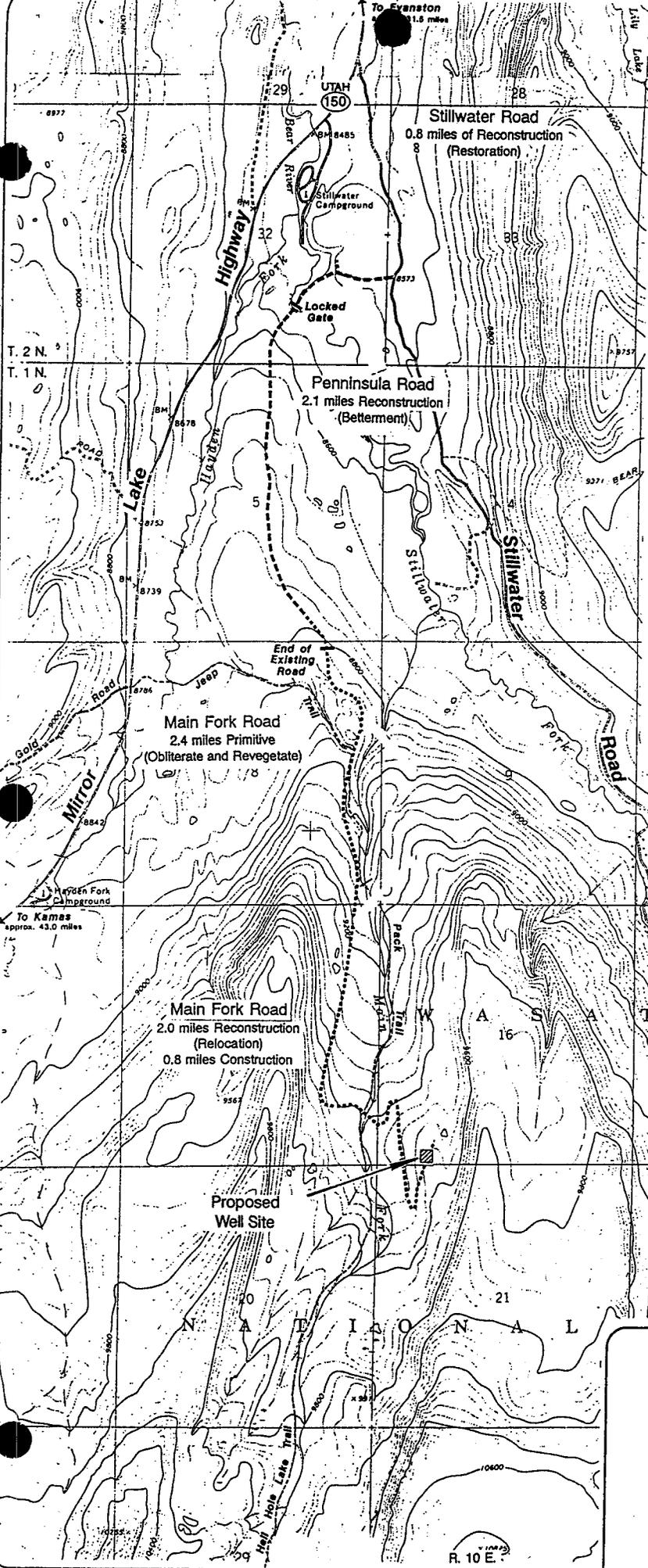
In order to proceed, permits and approvals from other Federal, State, and local agencies may be required. A list of the permits and approvals needed to construct, operate, maintain, and abandon Chevron's proposed action are summarized in Appendix A.



**Chevron Table Top Prospect**  
**Project Vicinity**

REFERENCE -  
 BASE ADAPTED FROM MAP ENTITLED  
 'NATIONAL FORESTS OF THE INTERMOUNTAIN  
 REGION' BY U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE,  
 FOREST SERVICE - OGDEN, UTAH - 1988.

Figure 1-1



SOURCE:  
U.S.G.S. 7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLES ENTITLED  
"DEADMAN MOUNTAIN, UTAH - WYOMING"  
AND "CHRISTMAS MEADOWS, UTAH". BOTH  
SHEETS DATED 1972.

**Chevron Table Top Prospect**

# Project Location

Figure 1-2

R. 10 E.



## TABLE TOP PROSPECT PROJECT Project Update

January 1992

As you know from our September 1991 project newsletter, Chevron USA, Inc. (Chevron) proposes to drill and test an exploratory oil well in the North Slope of the Uinta Mountains located within the boundaries of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest (Forest). The Table Top Prospect Project is located approximately 40 miles south of Evanston, Wyoming (in Summit County, Utah) and the access route from Highway 150 is Stillwater Road to Peninsula Road to a new road that would be constructed. (Refer to project area map.) Our previous newsletter provided a description of the proposed project, a statement of the purpose and need for the project, a brief explanation of the environmental studies to be conducted, and a request for comments on the project.

The purpose of this second project newsletter is to report on the comments received and update the public on the status of the project.

### RESULTS OF THE SCOPING PROCESS

Integral to the environmental process is the solicitation of comments from the various Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested organizations and individuals to assist in incorporating the most accurate and current environmental information and public opinion into planning and decision-making. The initial opportunity to comment on the Table Top Prospect Project was "scoping", an information-gathering process open to the public early in the project. The comments received assisted in identifying the range, or scope, of issues and concerns to be addressed during the environmental studies in preparation for the environmental document.

In early September, 1991, we mailed our first project newsletter (scoping document) to the 227 parties on the project mailing list. On September 17, 1991, a notice of our intent to prepare an environmental analysis was published in the Federal Register. This notice initiated the 30-day scoping period.

A total of 116 commentors responded to the solicitation. A concise summary of the comments follows.

A number of commentors expressed support for the project. They expressed that North Slope of the Uinta Mountains has a high potential for yielding oil and gas. The project area is located on public land administered by the Forest Service and is designated for multiple uses. The opinion of many individuals is that exploration, development, and production of oil and gas are compatible with other uses of the land.

Some felt development of domestic oil and gas reserves is important to offset and reduce US dependence on foreign energy sources. A discovery and potential ensuing production could lead to further oil and gas development in the region. They believe this increase in production would result in economic benefits (for example; employment, goods, services, tax revenues) for the State of Utah, refineries in Salt Lake City, and nearby communities in Wyoming (particularly Evanston).

Many expressed that appropriate mitigation measures should be imposed and enforced by the Forest Service to preserve the environmental resources. Commentors suggested that responsible oil companies have demonstrated their willingness to be environmentally conscious and compliant on projects in sensitive settings similar to this project and believe that Chevron would respond similarly on this project.

Some commentors expressed opinions regarding the future use of the proposed access road. Some individuals want the proposed access road to remain open for recreational access and other uses (for example; forest management and designated uses) into the area, which has not been readily accessible in the past. Other individuals suggested that the road be closed to all but essential traffic and, upon abandonment of the well, the road should be closed entirely and reclaimed. Another individual suggested that the proposed location of the road be reconsidered and located to access the area from the Hayden Fork side.

A number of commentors expressed opposition to the project. Many of these individuals are opposed to the project since it is in an environmentally sensitive roadless area known for its scenic qualities, wildlife habitat, and recreation. They believe that the project would seriously impact these values and further the degradation of the area. Others

expressed the opinion that this project should be analyzed as part of larger analysis to address cumulative effects within the region rather than as individual project decisions.

Also, concern was expressed about water quality and quantity. Some expressed concern that ground disturbance from construction could result in sedimentation in the drainage resulting in impacts to the aquatic habitat. Some expressed that potential oil spill(s) from the site could endanger the Stillwater drainage and water quality. Others were concerned that drilling and testing could alter the water supply for Christmas Meadows summer homes.

At this time we have identified the following issues from public comments:

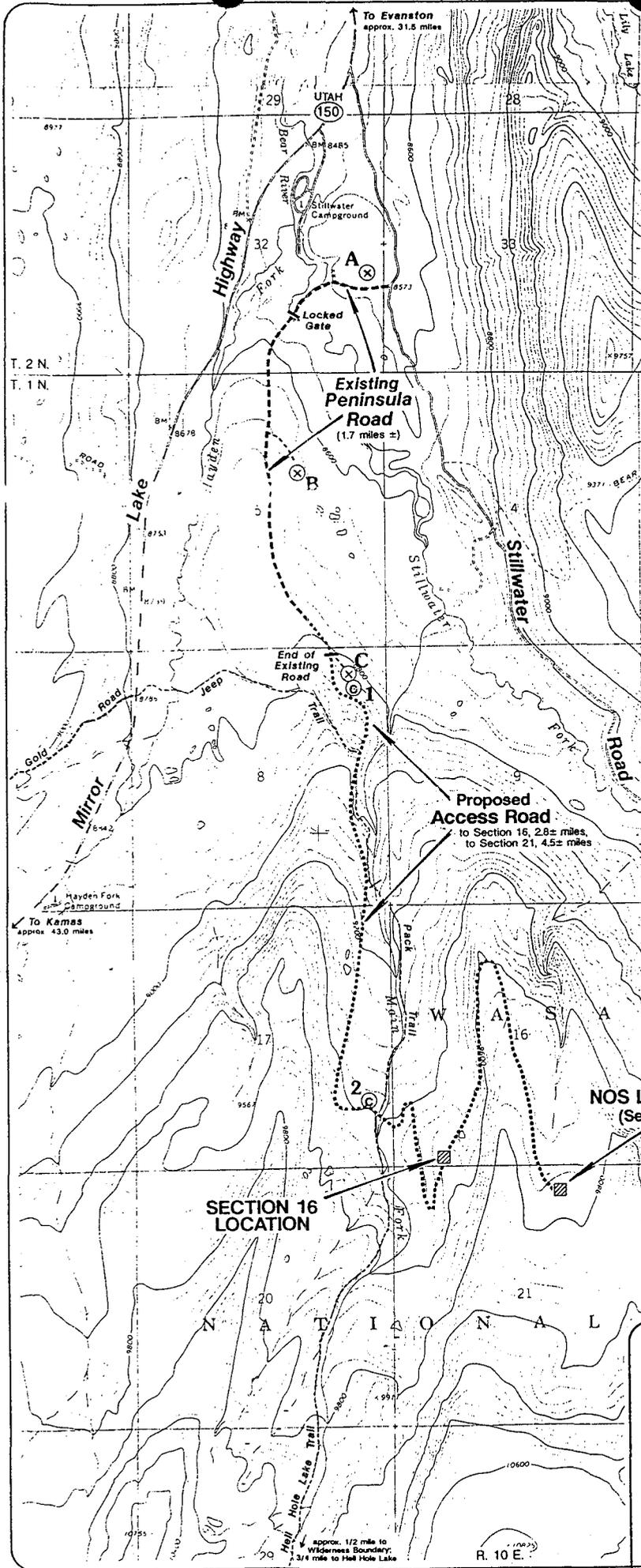
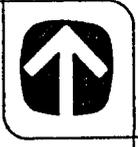
- What effects will the project have on water quality in the Stillwater drainage?
- How will the project affect the values and characteristics of the roadless area?
- What effects will the project have on visual quality from different vantage points (including the Mirror Lake Highway)?
- How will the proposed access road be managed in the future?
- Will the project have an affect on the water supply to the Christmas Meadows summer-home area?
- How will the project affect wildlife species within the area?
- How will the project affect local (Evanston & Salt Lake) and state economies?
- How will the project affect existing recreation use in the area?

Other comments received were not identified as significant issues to be analyzed. Some will be addressed in the EIS as management requirements that must be followed by Chevron. Others were beyond the scope of this analysis.

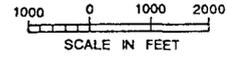
#### PROJECT STATUS

Project personnel from the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Supervisor's Office and the Evanston Ranger District met on October 31, 1991, to review the public comments and determine the appropriate NEPA document. The decision to proceed with the documentation of the environmental analysis with an environmental impact statement (EIS) was based on a review of the regulations which discuss significance and when an EIS should be prepared. Public comments demonstrated a wide range of concern over effects of introducing a road into a roadless area. This controversy over effects led to a decision that an EIS was appropriate. A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on January 8, 1992. Public comments will be accepted until January 31. All previous comments received during the initial scoping period, which ended October 4, 1991, will be used in the preparation of the EIS, therefore, it is not necessary to respond again unless you have additional comments. At this time, we anticipate that the draft EIS will be distributed for public review and comment March 1992.

We appreciate your interest in this project and value your input. For further information, please contact Mr. Bernard Asay at (307) 789-3194. Submit any additional comments to Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, P.O. Box 1880, Evanston, WY, 82931-1880. Remember, you'll also have an opportunity to comment on the analysis during the DEIS review.



- ⊗ GRAVEL SOURCE SITE  
(Alternative A, B, or C)
- ⊙ CREW CAMP SITE  
(Alternative 1 or 2)



REFERENCE:  
 U.S.G.S. 7.5 MINUTE QUADRANGLES ENTITLED  
 'DEADMAN MOUNTAIN, UTAH - WYOMING'  
 AND 'CHRISTMAS MEADOWS, UTAH' BOTH  
 SHEETS DATED 1972.

**SECTION 16  
 LOCATION**

**Proposed  
 Access Road**  
 to Section 16, 2.8± miles,  
 to Section 21, 4.5± miles

**NOS LOCATION  
 (Section 21)**

**PROJECT AREA**  
 Table Top Prospect Area  
**CHEVRON USA, INC.**

**Meeks Cabin Dam Modification/Early Warning System Special Use Permit Applications:** Decision to issue two special use permits to the BOR was signed May 27, 1993. Special use permits have been issued and projects have started. Contact: Bernard Asay

**Table Top Prospect Exploratory Oil Well:** Chevron Inc., has proposed drilling an exploratory well in the Main Fork drainage. The decision based on the analysis disclosed in the Table Top EIS will determine how Chevron will exercise their right to explore for and develop potential oil and gas on their lease in the Main Fork drainage. The final touches to the final EIS (FEIS) are being completed. This document and the Record of Decision (ROD) will be printed towards the end of November 1993 and released to the public soon afterwards. Contact: Bernard Asay

**Stillwater/Mirror Lake Highway Dispersed Camping Areas:** A proliferation of roads and dispersed campsites have developed over the years in the Stillwater/Mirror Lake Highway areas. To gain some control of the situation, the Evanston Ranger District is proposing to identify specific travel routes and campsites, and obliterate those roads and sites which are not needed and have damaged the resource. Scoping will begin this fall, with the appropriate NEPA document being completed this winter. A similar review is being made on the Kamas Ranger District portion of this highway. Contact: Liz Schuppert.

**Trail Relocation/Soil & Water Improvement for East Fork Blacks Fork:** In the first mile or two of the East Fork Blacks Fork Trail, the route takes the hiker/horseback rider through the middle of a meadow. It is difficult for a hiker/horseback rider to be sure they are on the right trail. Severe erosion has also occurred around this piece of trail creating the need for rehabilitation. The Evanston Ranger District proposes a one mile reroute of this portion of trail to take it out of the meadow and place it closer to the edge of trees. Scoping will be done this fall, with the appropriate NEPA document completed this winter. Contact: Liz Schuppert.

**Addition to East Fork Blacks Fork Campground/Trailhead:** The Evanston Ranger District is proposing to construct a small corral, and two new campsites at the East Fork Blacks Fork Campground/Trailhead. Horse users sometimes arrive late at the campground/trailhead and would prefer to camp there for the night and start out in the morning. The corral will permit the horse(s) to be controlled nearby during the night. The two new campsites would be situated near the corral for those horse users wishing to keep their horses in sight. The corral and campsites will be located on the south end of the horse trailer parking lot, adjacent to the loading ramp. Scoping will be done this fall, with the appropriate NEPA document completed this winter. Contact: Liz Schuppert.



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*Chevron  
Table Top Prospect  
Summit County*

## TABLE TOP PROSPECT PROJECT Request for Public Comments

September 1991

Chevron USA, Inc. (Chevron) proposes to drill and test an exploratory well in the North Slope of the Uinta Mountains located in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest (Forest). The project, referred to as the Table Top Prospect, is located approximately 40 miles south of Evanston, Wyoming (in Summit County, Utah) and the access route from Highway 150 is Stillwater Road to Peninsula Road to a new road that would be constructed.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the public of the intent to consider Chevron's request and conduct the environmental analysis as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and to solicit comments from the public on the project.

### PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT

This action is consistent with the United States government's energy and land use policies to explore for and develop domestic oil resources to reduce the need for foreign oil. The proposed action is a method whereby the lessee would be allowed to exercise the rights granted within the lease to explore for and possibly develop oil and gas resources underlying the leased lands, as long as these rights can be exercised in an environmentally responsible manner and accomplished in conformance with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest Plan of 1985 (Forest Plan).

### OVERVIEW: How Oil and Gas Leases Are Developed on National Forests

Generally, oil and gas activities progress through five basic phases: (1) preliminary investigations, (2) exploratory drilling on oil and gas leases, (3) testing and evaluation, (4) development and production, and (5) abandonment. Preliminary investigations include geological and geophysical exploration to identify geologic characteristics that may indicate reservoir(s) of oil or gas. If sufficient potential for oil or gas is evident, a company may want to explore further. Positive results from these tests may lead to the preparation of an Application for a Permit to Drill (APD). Once the appropriate leases and other permits are obtained, exploratory drilling and testing may begin. The process usually begins by precisely staking the location. Then in preparation for the drilling rig, the site is cleared of vegetation and a level pad is constructed to accommodate the drill rig, mud pumps, reserve pit, generators pipe rack, and tool house. Well pads are typically two to five acres. If a well successfully produces oil, a Surface Use Plan of Operations (SUPO) would have to be prepared to address the production phase. The life of a producing field is 15 to 20 years. Wells are plugged and abandoned upon depletion of the resource. The pad is reclaimed and appropriate vegetation planted. The access road is reclaimed unless the Forest needs to use it for other activities.

### PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed action in this case is to construct an access road to and drill and test an exploratory well on Chevron's lease UT-54044. Chevron initiated the permitting process by filing a notice of staking (NOS) on March 31, 1989, and is presently preparing an APD and SUPO with the intention of drilling an exploratory oil well in Township 1 North, Range 10 East, NW 1/4, NE 1/4 Section 21, located in Chevron's Federal lease UT-54044. Approximately 4.5 miles of access road would have to be constructed. This "Section 21" location is currently Chevron's proposed drillsite. An alternative site in the same lease is located in Township 1 North, Range 10 East, SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of Section 16 also will be considered. Recent geophysical studies indicate that this "Section 16" site may prove to be more geologically and environmentally acceptable than the Section 21 location. The Section 16 location would require approximately 3 miles of new access road. If this location is selected as the preferred alternative, based on the NEPA analysis, the SUPO would apply to this site. The analysis will address the drilling and potential production of this well. Should a discovery be made, additional NEPA analysis would be completed to address the development.

The selected site, including the reserve pit area, would be 3.3 acres in size, situated in a rectangular configuration with a width of 300 feet and length of 475 feet. The reserve pit would be lined with impervious material to prevent contamination of the soil and groundwater. Equipment associated with the drilling operations would be located at the drillsite and the site itself would be fenced with a sheep-tight, woven-wire fence topped with two strands of barbed wire. The drilling program is expected to last approximately six months. All aspects of the project will be conducted in

compliance with regulations and conditions imposed by the BLM and Forest Service (while the lease is on National Forest System lands, mineral leases on all Federal lands are administered by the BLM).

If oil and/or gas is not discovered in commercial quantities, then Chevron would permanently plug the well in accordance with BLM regulations, all equipment will be removed and the drillsite, its access, and any borrow sites would be reclaimed in accordance with a reclamation plan to be agreed to in advance of any construction. If oil and/or gas is discovered in commercial quantities, Chevron would coordinate with the BLM and Forest to initiate the appropriate procedures, including any further environmental analysis needed, to seek approval for production.

### PROJECT STUDIES

In accordance with NEPA, the Forest Service is responsible for overseeing the completion of environmental studies and preparation of an environmental document. The Wasatch-Cache National Forest serves as the lead agency and the BLM, Salt Lake District, serves as a cooperating agency. The objective of the environmental studies is to comprehensively study the effects on the human, natural, and cultural environments that would be caused by the construction and operation of the access road and exploratory well pad, to explore the impacts of the alternatives to the proposed action, and to develop ways to avoid or reduce any potential impacts to the sensitive features of the environment. The studies will address the:

**Human Environment** – existing and planned surface uses; such as recreation, grazing, timber, and other uses; scenic or visual characteristics of the local landscape as affected by the project; social and economic effects

**Natural Environment** – earth resources, such as geology, soils, air, and water resources; biological resources including wildlife, vegetation, and threatened and endangered species of plants and animals; wetlands, riparian areas

**Cultural Environment** – prehistoric and historic cultural resources

As part of the environmental analysis, it will be determined whether the proposed action is in conformance with the direction of the Forest Plan. The Forest Plan established forest-wide, multiple use goals and objectives for defined management areas; the North Slope Management Area in this case. Management direction relevant to this project is provided beginning on page IV-74 of the Forest Plan and includes direction to coordinate development of mineral resources with management of recreation opportunities and visual quality objectives, protection of cultural resources and water quality, the needs of wildlife, and others. Standards and guidelines for protection of surface resources would be implemented as appropriate.

The consulting firm of Dames & Moore has been selected by Chevron and approved by the Forest Service to conduct the environmental studies and assist the Forest Service and BLM in preparing the environmental document.

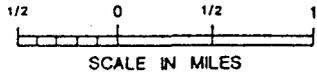
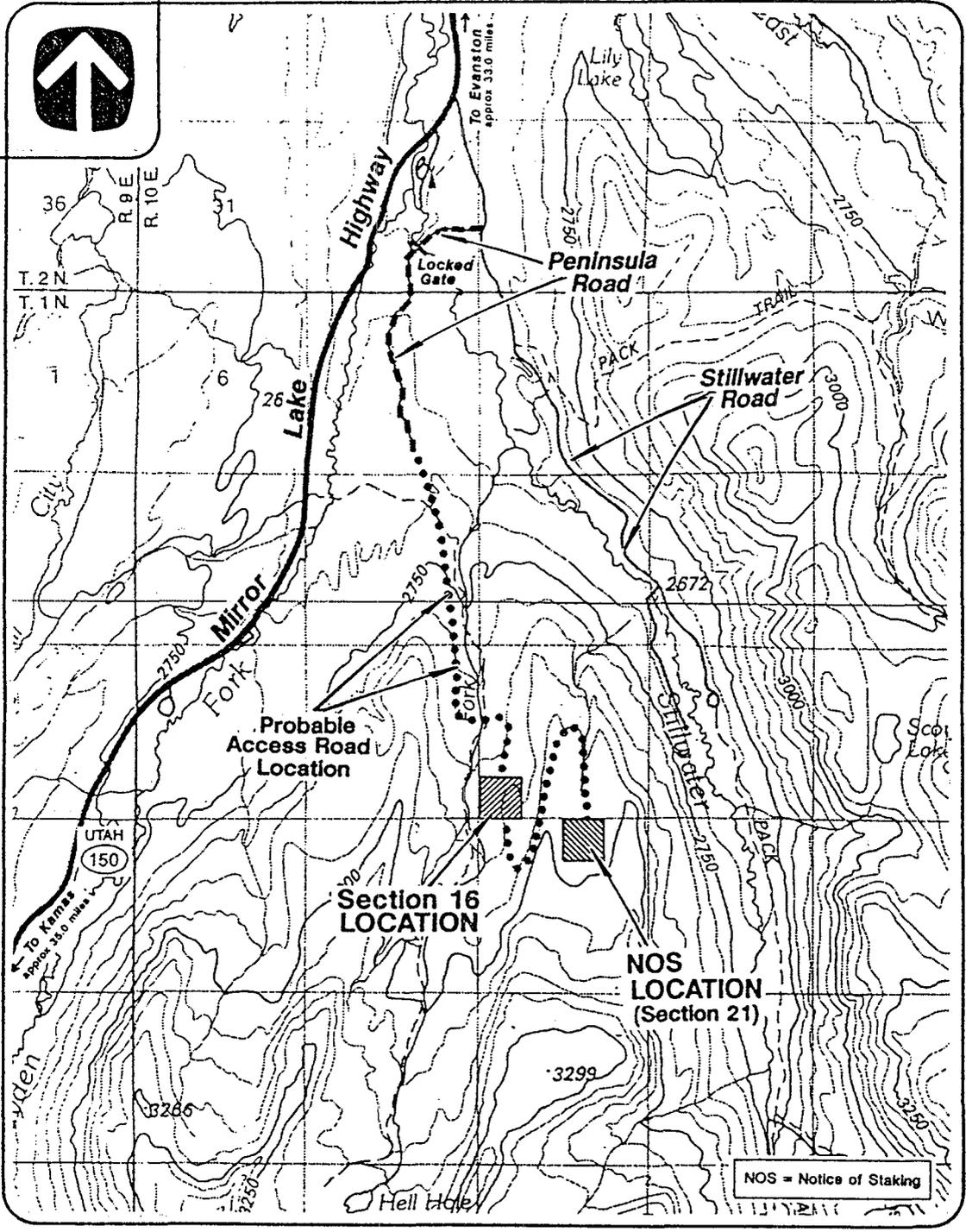
### SCOPING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Integral to the environmental process is the solicitation of comments from the various Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested organizations and individuals to assure that the most accurate and current environmental information and public opinion are incorporated into planning and decision-making. This is the initial opportunity to comment on the project. The Forest Service is providing this project information to the public at an early stage for the public to offer comments. The comments will assist in identifying the scope of issues and concerns to be addressed during the environmental studies in preparation of the environmental document. Preliminary issues and concerns have been identified by the Forest and BLM, and include (but are not limited to) conformance with the Forest Plan, water quality, cultural resources, visual resources, roadless area management, and conflicts with recreation uses.

A response sheet has been provided for all interested agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit questions, comments, and suggestions regarding the scope of the project. Please submit your comments by October 4, 1991. Those interested in receiving information over the course of the project should send names and addresses to be included on the project mailing list. We appreciate your time and effort in taking an interest in this project. We look forward to your continued involvement.

For further information on the Table Top Prospect Project contact Mr. Bernard Asay, Project Manager, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Evanston Ranger District, 1565 Hwy. 150, Suite A, Evanston, Wyoming, 82930, (307) 789-3194.

H. J.



REFERENCE -  
 U.S. G.S. 1 : 100,000-SCALE METRIC  
 SERIES TOPOGRAPHIC MAP ENTITLED  
 "KINGS PEAK, UTAH-WYOMING" - 1982.

**PROJECT AREA**  
**Table Top Prospect Project**  
**CHEVRON USA, INC.**



*Route to Rofad  
Dianne FMI*

## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

November 10, 1992

### Minutes

#### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rod Millar, Chairman, called the Resource Development Coordinating Committee to order at 9:04 a.m. Karl Kappe moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Milo Barney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### II. SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS

##### **North Slope Oil Development Proposal - Chevron Corporation Walter J. Maguire, Public Affairs Manager**

Crude oil is Utah's leading mineral for tax income, and the State is the tenth largest producer of oil in the United States. However, Oil production has steadily declined during the last six years, largely because new fields have not been explored through wildcat drilling. Most new discoveries have come through drilling in known fields.

An Application for Permit to Drill (APD) has been submitted by Chevron U.S.A. Production Company to drill an exploratory oil and gas well on the Evanston Ranger District of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The proposed well would be located within the main fork of the Stillwater drainage in T1N R10E SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 16, Summit County.

The proposed exploratory well would be drilled on Federal oil and gas lease U-24446 to determine if oil and gas reserves occur in geologic formations underlying the lease, and if so, whether or not they are economically recoverable.

Chevron's proposed action includes:

- Drilling, completing, testing, and possible production, at a single exploratory oil well on 3.43 acres in the above area.
- Restoring 0.8 miles of Stillwater Road (Forest Road No. 057), improving 2.1 miles of Peninsula Road (Forest Road No. 306), relocating 2.0 miles of the Main Fork Road, and constructing 0.8 miles of new road to the proposed well site.
- Constructing a .5 acre gravel source pit in T1N R10E NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 8 to provide gravel to surface the existing and new road and well pad.
- Graveling 5.7 miles of the road into the well site and the 3.43 acre well pad.

- Drilling a temporary water well on the well pad to provide water for drilling and dust control.
- Reclaiming all surface disturbance at the well site if the well is not successful.

If approved, the activities associated with this proposed action would begin in July or August of 1993, and would be completed by early 1994. Reclamation would begin upon completion of activities, depending on weather conditions.

There are three existing wells within a 1.5 mile radius and about seven wells within a six mile radius of this project.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be completed by the end of November. Comments will be due 45 days after the issue date of the Draft EIS. Following the comment period, a Final EIS will be prepared. The Final EIS is expected to be completed around February.

Two public meetings will be held sometime in December, one in Evanston, Wyoming, and the other in Salt Lake City. Questions should be directed to Walter J. Maguire of Chevron at 539-7337.

### **Local Government Comprehensive Planning Project**

Agencies are encouraged to participate in scoping meetings and steering committees in the three involved counties. Invitations for steering committee membership can be arranged.

There will be a Salt Lake City based steering committee, which will probably have its first meeting sometime in early December. Interested agencies may contact Andrea Olson at 538-6196 for meeting dates and locations.

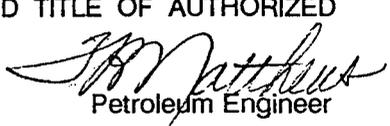
## **III. OTHER PROPOSED ACTIONS**

### **State**

4. UT921029-050 Correction: The comment deadline should be December 6, 1992. Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining/Carbon County: Mining and Reclamation Permit for Sunnyside Mine Coarse Refuse Pile - Permit (Sec. 6, 7, T15S, R14E).

STATE ACTIONS

Mail to:  
RDCC Coordinator  
116 State Capitol  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

- 
1. ADMINISTERING STATE AGENCY  
OIL, GAS AND MINING  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
2. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER NUMBER:  
(assigned by State Clearinghouse)
- 
3. APPROXIMATE DATE PROJECT WILL START:  
September 15, 1992
- 
4. AREAWIDE CLEARING HOUSE(S) RECEIVING STATE ACTIONS:  
(to be sent out by agency in block 1)  
Mountainland Association of Governments
- 
5. TYPE OF ACTION:  Lease  Permit  License  Land Acquisition  
 Land Sale  Land Exchange  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 
6. TITLE OF PROPOSED ACTION:  
Application for Permit to Drill
- 
7. Chevron U.S.A. Production Co. proposes to drill the Chevron Federal 1-16 well (wildcat) on federal lease U-24446, Summit County, Utah. This action is being presented to RDCC for consideration of resource issues affecting state interests. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management is the primary administrative agency in this action and must issue approval before operations commence.
- 
8. LAND AFFECTED (site location map required) (indicate county)  
SW/4 SW/4, Section 16, Township 1 North, Range 10 East, Summit County, Utah
- 
9. HAS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT(S) BEEN CONTACTED?
- 
10. POSSIBLE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS LIKELY TO OCCUR:  
See Attachment
- 
11. NAME AND PHONE NUMBER OF DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE FROM YOUR AGENCY NEAR PROJECT SITE, IF APPLICABLE:
- 
12. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Frank R. Matthews  
PHONE: 538-5340
13. SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:  
DATE: 6/13/92   
Petroleum Engineer

WOI187

# News Release



## CHEVRON WITHDRAWS FROM TABLE TOP PROJECT

Chevron announced today that it is withdrawing from the Table Top project in Summit County, Utah. The Table Top project called for an exploratory oil and gas well in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest about 35 miles south of Evanston, Wyoming.

"The decision to withdraw from the project was based on our current forecasts for the price of oil," explained Chevron spokesman Walt Maguire. "Soft oil prices over the past year, combined with future price projections, do not support an investment decision that allows us to proceed on this project."

Maguire complimented the Forest Service offices in Evanston and in Salt Lake City on the professional manner in which they conducted the permitting process. "They were in the difficult position of balancing a number of competing interests and did so in a way that demonstrates multiple-use of public lands can be a reality."

For further information contact: Walt Maguire 801/539-7337

## *Forest Service Changes Mind, Won't Allow High Uinta Drilling*

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Officials with the Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests said Friday that they will withdraw their decision to allow oil and gas exploration in roadless areas in the High Uintas.

The decision involves about 80,000 acres of the North Slope area of the two national forests, part of 240,000 acres Chevron USA wants to explore.

The withdrawal does not mean exploration will never be allowed in that area, said U.S. Forest Service Wasatch-Cache spokeswoman Julie Hubbard. Rather, officials have declared "no decision" on the roadless acres pending further review.

The action came after Forest Service review of four appeals — two from individuals, one from the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas Association and one from an alliance of the Utah Wilderness Association, Sierra Club Wyoming, the Uinta Mountain Club and the Wasatch Mountain Club.

The environmental groups had appealed a January decision by then-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Supervisor Susan Giannetino to allow Chevron to build a road and pad for a well about two miles east of the Mirror Lake Highway and several miles south of the North Slope road.

The Intermountain Regional forester rejected the appeal in April, but ordered Wasatch-Cache officials to provide a more thorough analysis.

## HIGH UINTAS

# Chevron moves closer to drilling well

*BLM expected to give final OK. Wilderness group aims to stop the project.*

**By Jennifer K. Hatch**  
Deseret News staff writer

Chevron is one step closer to drilling a well just outside the High Uintas Wilderness Area after a second approval by U.S. Forest Service officials.

All that awaits now is approval from the Bureau of Land Management.

Yet the Utah Wilderness Association, an organization that has opposed the well since it was first approved in January, still intends to stop Chevron in its tracks.

Peter W. Karp, supervisor of the Uinta and Wasatch-Cache National forests, released a letter this week giving his approval for the proposed exploratory well in the Main Fork drainage of the Stillwater Fork of the Bear River, about three miles from the wilderness boundary.

Susan Giannettino, past forest supervisor, had also approved the venture earlier this year, but the UWA appealed. The regional forester, acting on the appeal, affirmed Giannettino's decision but directed Karp to conduct a more thorough analysis of the cumulative effects if a well were built.

Specifically, Karp was to exam-

ine the potential effects if the exploratory well discovered oil and a second (confirmation) well were built.

Impacts listed in the Forest Service report included increased potential for man-caused fire, safety problems, surface soil disturbance and minimal impacts on wildlife and water if a second well were needed.

"Those impacts are not significant and, most importantly, not very likely," Karp wrote in his letter.

The Forest Service will now request BLM to give approval, said public affairs officer Dick Kline, noting that the bureau typically follows Forest Service recommendations. "As far as we're concerned this clears the way," he said. The project could begin as early as next month, he said.

That is, if the UWA doesn't have its way.

George Nickas, UWA assistant coordinator, said his organization will again appeal the Forest Service decision. The decision was not unexpected, he said, but he is upset that the Forest Service didn't involve the public when conducting its report of cumulative effects.

"That analysis should have been subject to public review" as established by the National Environmental Policy Act, Nickas said.

The UWA plans to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, a

body with the Department of the Interior that reviews BLM decisions. Yet the UWA does not automatically get a stay of action and cannot initiate an appeal until BLM actually signs the drilling permit, Nickas said.

Having both procedural and substantive questions, Nickas said UWA's bottom-line concern is that the drilling project "threatens to transform what is now one of the most pristine wilderness areas in the world into an industrial zone."

Chevron spokesman Walt McGuire doesn't see it that way. The proposed area for the well to be built is not undisturbed, he says, but it is beautiful and pristine. "And we intend to keep it that way."

Chevron must follow several restrictions, such as limiting vehicular and human traffic, waiting for the snowpack to melt and continually studying quality of water and wildlife. All of these are intended to minimize negative effects, McGuire said.

If construction plans go smoothly this summer, drilling could begin in fall, McGuire said.

Speaking of the conflict between wilderness advocates and those who wish to use the land for industry, Kline said, "We felt a certain level of development can be implemented without making an adverse impact. It puts a challenge on us as an agency to do our very best."

## HIGH UINTAS

# Group appeals drilling near wilds area

*Approval for Chevron plan ignores natural values and consequences, it says.*

**By Brent Israelsen**  
Deseret News staff writer

The Utah Wilderness Association has appealed a Forest Service decision that would allow a major oil company to drill a well near the High Uintas Wilderness Area.

Earlier this year, Wasatch-Cache Forest Supervisor Susan Giannettino authorized Chevron USA to drill an exploratory well in the Main Fork drainage of the Stillwater Fork of the Bear River.

But the UWA — which has made stopping the oil well its top priority — says the environmental analysis behind Giannettino's decision was flawed.

"We don't think the Forest Service in their analysis acknowledges the outstanding natural values of the Main Fork and, therefore, appropriately weighed the consequences of drilling the well," said George Nickas, assistant coordinator of the UWA. "Because they failed to recognize these values, they didn't consider alternatives."

For example, Nickas said, the Forest Service could have required the use of helicopters, rather than roads, to gain access to the drilling site, which is two miles north of the High Uintas Wilderness Area and two miles east of U-150, also known as the Mirror Lake Highway.

Giannettino's decision allows Chevron to build six miles of road to the 3.4-acre drilling site. Much of the road will be on old gravel routes, but about one mile will be built into a roadless area.

Nickas said the Forest Service did not seriously consider helicopter-assisted drilling, even though it "is done all over the world in sensitive areas."

The Forest Service dismissed the alternative, in part, because of costs, but "helicopter access should be perceived as a simple cost of doing business in a sensitive environmental area," according to the UWA appeal, filed with the Regional Forester's Office in Ogden.

"The Forest Service has a responsibility to look out for the public's interest, not Chevron's interest," said Nickas. "If it's too expensive, they ought to realize that this is a place where they ought not to be drilling."

The appeal also said the decision to allow drilling violates the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act because the Main Fork was not analyzed for in-

clusion into the act. The environmental analysis also failed to consider wilderness, recreation and historic values in the proposed drilling area.

The regional forester has 45 days to respond to the appeal. If the appeal holds, the UWA may take the action to court.

"We're willing to fight it as far as we can," Nickas said. "It's a big priority because we're not just looking at a well. They go looking to find oil. They'll transform the North Slope drainages, which are some of the most sublime wilderness in the West, into an industrial zone."

Chevron spokesman Walt McGuire maintains that the project will be undertaken in an environmentally responsible manner and that his company has "an excellent track record" of drilling in mountain environments.

If UWA fails in its appeals, Chevron could begin building roads as early as July, with drilling beginning as early as fall, McGuire said.



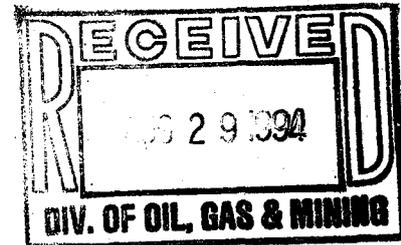
**Chevron**

August 22, 1994

**Chevron U.S.A. Production Company**  
Western Exploration Division  
P.O. Box 1635  
Houston, TX 77251

Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203  
Attn: Mr. Jim Carter

**WITHDRAWAL OF THE APD  
FEDERAL #1-16 WELL  
SW/4SW/4 SEC. 16, T1N-R10E  
TABLE TOP UNIT  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**



Gentlemen:

As Chevron U.S.A. Production Company has decided not to drill the Federal #1-16 Well located in the SW/4SW/4 of Section 16, T1N-R10E, Table Top Unit, Summit County, Utah, we have advised the BLM that we wish to withdraw the APD for this well. As such, we also wish to withdraw the copy thereof that was filed with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (713) 754-7654.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Williams

SRW:ap022394



August 31, 1994

Bureau of Land Management  
Utah State Office  
324 South State, Suite 301  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-2303

**Chevron U.S.A. Production Company**  
Western Exploration Division  
P.O. Box 1635  
Houston, TX 77251

**TABLE TOP UNIT AREA  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**

Gentlemen:

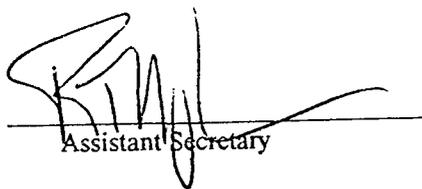
Please be advised that Chevron U.S.A. Inc. wishes to withdraw its letter of August 18, 1994 which notifies you of its intention to resign as Unit Operator of the Table Top Unit and withdraw its APD for the proposed Federal #1-16 well in the SW/4SW/4 of Section 16, T1N-R10E, Summit County, Utah.

In place thereof, Chevron U.S.A. Inc. hereby notifies you of its intention to resign as Unit Operator of the Table Top Unit. Subject to the approval of the BLM, Wolverine Exploration Company will be named as successor Unit Operator. Please be advised that Wolverine has already received sufficient approval from the working interest owners in the unit to succeed Chevron as successor Unit Operator. Wolverine, as successor Unit Operator, will assume responsibility of the APD for the proposed Federal #1-16 well. As such, Wolverine will continue to seek the approval thereof. If you have any questions with regard to such matters, please contact the following:

Mr. Jeff Robinson  
Wolverine Exploration Company  
306 West 7th Street, Suite 1025  
Fort Worth, TX  
Phone number (817) 223-1833  
FAX number (817) 339-1002

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Scott Williams at (713) 754-7654.

CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.

By: 

Assistant Secretary

SRW:ap083194

cc: Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
Evanston Ranger District  
P. O. Box 1880  
Evanston, WY 82931-1880  
Attn: Mr. Stephen M. Ryberg  
District Ranger

Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
Forest Supervisor's Office  
8236 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 824138  
Attn: Mr. Peter Karp  
Forest Supervisor

Bureau of Land Management  
Salt Lake District Office  
2370 South 2300 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119  
Attn: Mr. Deane H. Zeller  
District Manager

cc: Wolverine Exploration Company  
306 West 7th Street, Suite 1025  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
Attn: Ms Lela Lenning

Ms. Judy H. Yates  
c/o Yates Petroleum Corporation  
105 South Fourth Street  
Artesia, NM 88210  
Attn: Ms. Janet Richardson

Liberty Petroleum Corporation  
853 Broadway, Suite 1020  
New York, NY 10003  
Attn: Mr. Greg Klurfeld

Amoco Production Company  
P. O. Box 800  
Denver, CO 80201  
Attn: Mr. Greg Shewmaker

Double Eagle Petroleum & Mining Company  
P. O. Box 766  
Casper, WY 82602-0766  
Attn: Mr. Richard B. Laudon



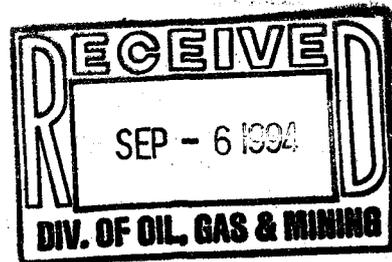
**Chevron**

September 1, 1994

**Chevron U.S.A. Production Company**  
Western Exploration Division  
P.O. Box 1635  
Houston, TX 77251

Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203  
Attn: Mr. Jim Carter

**FEDERAL #1-16 WELL**  
**SW/4SW/4 SEC. 16, T1N-R10E**  
**TABLE TOP UNIT**  
**SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**



Gentlemen:

Please be advised that we have informed the BLM by our letter of August 31, 1994, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for your reference, that we no longer wish to withdraw the APD for the proposed Federal #1-16 well located in the SW/4SW/4 of Section 16, T1N-R10E, Summit County, Utah. Nevertheless, Chevron U.S.A. Inc. has tendered its resignation as Unit Operator for the Table Top Unit. Subject to the approval of the BLM, Wolverine Exploration Company will succeed Chevron as Unit Operator. Wolverine, as successor Unit Operator, will assume responsibility of the APD for the proposed Federal #1-16 well. As such, Wolverine will continue to seek the approval thereof. If you have any questions with regard to such matters, please contact the following:

Mr. Jeff Robinson  
Wolverine Exploration Company  
306 West 7th Street, Suite 1025  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
Phone number: (817) 223-1833  
FAX number: (817) 339-1002

If I can be of assistance, please contact me at (713) 754-7654.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Williams

SRW:ap090194



**Chevron**

September 2, 1994

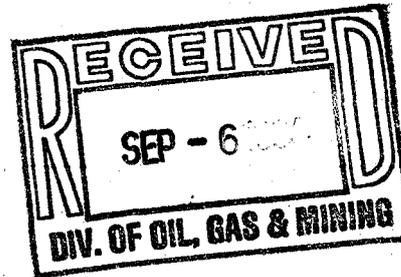
**Chevron U.S.A. Production Company**

Western Exploration Division

P.O. Box 1635

Houston, TX 77251

Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203  
Attn: Mr. Jim Carter



**FEDERAL #1-16 WELL  
SW/4SW/4 SEC. 16, T1N-R10E  
TABLE TOP UNIT  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**

Gentlemen:

With regard to our letter of September 1, 1994 to you pertaining to the captioned matter, please be advised that the appropriate address and phone numbers at which Wolverine Exploration Company, as successor Unit Operator for the Table Top Unit, Summit County, Utah, may be contacted are as follows:

Mr. Jeff Robinson  
Wolverine Exploration Company  
700 Louisiana Street, Suite 3330  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone number: (713) 223-1833  
FAX number: (713) 223-5110

If I can be of assistance, please contact me at (713) 754-7654.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Williams

SRW:ap090394



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

Ted Stewart  
Executive Director

James W. Carter  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
801-538-5319 (TDD)

July 5, 1995

Amerac Energy Corporation  
700 Louisiana, Suite 3330  
Houston, Texas 77002-2730

Re: Table Top Unit TTU-1 Well, 244' FSL, 1161' FWL, SW SW, Sec. 16, T. 1 N.,  
R. 10 E., Summit County, Utah

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the provisions and requirements of Utah Code Ann. 40-6-1 et seq., Utah Administrative Code R649-3-1 et seq., and the attached Conditions of Approval, approval to drill the referenced well is granted.

This approval shall expire one year from the above date unless substantial and continuous operation is underway, or a request for extension is made prior to the expiration date. The API identification number assigned to this well is 43-043-30312.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. J. Firth'.

R. J. Firth  
Associate Director

ldc

Enclosures

cc: Summit County Assessor

Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District Office

WAPD



Operator: Amerac Energy Corporation

Well Name & Number: Table Top Unit TTU-1

API Number: 43-043-30312

Lease: Federal U-24446

Location: SW SW Sec. 16 T. 1 N., R. 10 E.

### Conditions of Approval

1. General

Compliance with the requirements of Utah Admin. R. 649-1 et seq., the Oil and Gas Conservation General Rules, and the applicable terms and provisions of the approved Application for Permit to Drill.

2. Notification Requirements

Notify the Division within 24 hours following spudding the well or commencing drilling operations. Contact Jimmie Thompson at (801)538-5340.

Notify the Division prior to commencing operations to plug and abandon the well. Contact Frank Matthews or Mike Hebertson at (801)538-5340.

3. Reporting Requirements

All required reports, forms and submittals shall be promptly filed with the Division, including but not limited to the Entity Action Form (Form 6), Report of Water Encountered During Drilling (Form 7), Weekly Progress Reports for drilling and completion operations, and Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells requesting approval of change of plans or other operational actions.



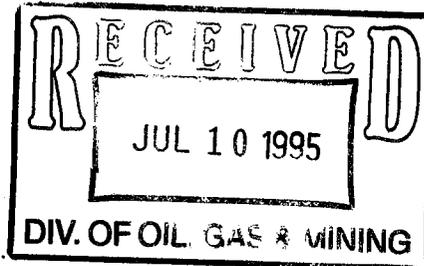
# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake District Office  
2370 South 2300 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3160  
(UT-025)



JUL 5 1995

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed is our Record of Decision (ROD) for the proposed Exploratory Oil Well - Amerac Energy Corporation's TTU-1. The ROD documents our decision process.

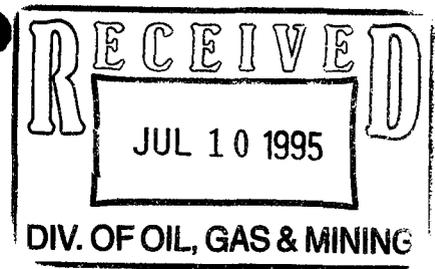
For your information this prospect was originally proposed by Chevron U.S.A. Production Company as the Table Top Unit, Unit Operator. The Unit Operator was changed by decision to Wolverine Exploration Company effective on November 29, 1994. On May 15, 1995 we recognized a name change from Wolverine Exploration Company to Amerac Energy Corporation.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Dan Washington of my staff at (801) 977-4300.

Sincerely,

Deane H. Zeller  
District Manager

Enclosure



## **RECORD OF DECISION**

### **TABLE TOP PROSPECT EXPLORATORY OIL WELL**

### **AMERAC ENERGY CORPORATION**

### **U.S.D.I. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

### **SALT LAKE DISTRICT**

### **SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

This is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) decision on the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) regarding Amerac Energy Corporation (Amerac) proposal to construct and drill an exploratory oil/gas well in the Main Fork drainage on the Evanston Ranger District, Wasatch-Cache National Forest. The FEIS reflects the Forest Service and BLM (Cooperating Agency) environmental analysis for Chevron's Application for Permit to Drill (APD) filed June 11, 1992.

The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, provides the Secretary of Interior the authority to approve APD's on lands where the oil and gas rights are held by the Federal government and have been leased to an entity in the private sector. This authority has been delegated by the Secretary of Interior to the BLM. The approval of an APD on lands administered by the National Forest System by BLM requires the approval of the Surface Use Plan of Operation (SUPO) portion of the APD by the United States Forest Service (USFS) as delegated from the Secretary of Agriculture under the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act (FOOGLRA) of 1987.

On January 21, 1994, the BLM Utah published a Notice of Adoption of the FEIS in the Federal Register (FR/Vol. 59. No. 14/page 3357). The BLM participated in preparation of the FEIS as a cooperating agency in accordance with Title 40 CFR part 1501.6 and national and local agreements. The FEIS meets the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the regulations for implementing the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Title 43 CFR part 1600).

The BLM will make the following decisions in this document:

1. Approve or deny the APD submitted by Amerac upon receipt by the BLM of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest decision to approve the SUPO portion of the APD.

**DECISION:**

Based on Forest Service approval of SUPO, their authorization for exception to lease No. U-54044, and our careful review of the FEIS as it pertains the actual drilling of the proposed well and the subsurface resources **our decision is to select the proposed action, approve the APD, and grant an exception to lease No. U-54044 to allow portions of the access road to cross leased lands designated as No Surface Occupancy.**

If after drilling, testing, and completion of the proposed exploratory well it is found to be capable of producing commercial quantities of oil and/or gas, only those activities analyzed in the FEIS would be allowed. Additional environmental analysis would be required for proposals beyond the scope of the FEIS.

**ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION:**

The proposed action is to drill for oil & gas at Well Site A located in T.1N.,R.10E.,SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 16 and encompass 3.43 acres on the west slope of the Main Fork drainage. Access to the site would involve upgrading 0.8 mile of the Stillwater Road, upgrading 2.1 miles of the Peninsula Road, constructing 2.0 miles of road on the west side of the Main Fork, constructing a bridge across the Main Fork, and constructing 0.8 mile of road the rest of the way to the well site.

An alternative well site would be located in T.1N.,R.10E., NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 21. Pad size would be the same as Well Site A; however, it would be located on the top of the ridge separating the Main Fork drainage from the Stillwater drainage. Access to this well site would be the same as well site A; however, would require an additional 1.6 miles of road.

The "No Action" alternative was considered. "No Action" means that the project would not be implemented as proposed. This alternative is considered the environmentally preferred alternative because implementation of this alternative would result in little or no ground disturbing activities in the short term.

Other alternatives considered are road management and gravel sources which are surface management decisions and are found in the USFS ROD.

**MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS:**

This decision is influenced by legal, regulatory and national

policy considerations. The laws and regulations that have established how Federal lands and resources are managed encourage the orderly and efficient development of mineral resources, including oil and gas. The development of Federal oil and gas reserves is recognized by Congress as being essential to meet the energy needs of the United States and to decrease our dependence on foreign sources.

**MITIGATION AND MONITORING:**

Mitigation has been developed through the FEIS to protect, avoid or minimize environmental impacts. For downhole analysis, the Drilling Plan has been designed in accordance with BLM minimum standards and would protect subsurface resources such as groundwater and other Prospectively Valuable minerals. Requirements for identifying the location and quality of cement of the intermediate casing string are also detailed properly.

Hydrogen sulfide gas (H<sub>2</sub>S) is not expected to be encountered during the drilling to the identified formations before reaching target depth. However, if H<sub>2</sub>S is encountered operations would comply with minimum standards of Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 6 which would provide public protection.

At abandonment the well would be plugged with placement of cement in the well bore to isolate and/or protect aquifers and other minerals. Disposal of drilling fluids in the wellbore requires State of Utah approval as an underground disposal well. If Amerac's proposes such disposal further NEPA analysis may be necessary for BLM consideration.

BLM Conditions of Approval for the drilling of the well will be attached to the APD and in addition to the notification requirements are the following:

- No variances were requested or granted to the minimum standards of Onshore Oil and Gas Order Nos. 2 or 6.
- A Cement Bond Log (CBL) or Cement Evaluation Tool (CET) shall be run on the 9 5/8" intermediate casing and the 7" production liner, if these strings are run and cemented.
- If H<sub>2</sub>S is encountered, the minimum standards of Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 6 shall be applicable.
- This approval is based upon the original submission and on data submitted September 8 & 9, 1993 which updated the casing program and on data submitted September 17, 1993 which updated the Blow Out Preventer Equipment (BOPE).

USFS Conditions of Approval will also be attached to the APD and will control the mitigation and monitoring of the Surface Use portion of the APD.

Monitoring of the drilling and abandonment operations will be conducted in accordance with the Bureau of Land Management Inspection and Enforcement Strategy.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:**

The BLM participated with the Forest in the scoping process that began in early September 1991, with the Notice of Intent to conduct environmental analysis being published in the September 17, 1991 Federal Register. The comment period ended in early October 1991. Over 100 comments, statements, or letters were received during the scoping process. They identified the range, or scope, of issues and concerns to be considered in the environmental document.

After careful review and analysis of the scoping data, project personnel determined that an environmental impact statement (EIS) would need to be prepared to adequately address all issues. A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on January 8, 1992. Additional comments were solicited and accepted until January 31, 1992. These comments plus the scoping data were used for the preparation of the EIS.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was released for public review in December, 1992. The DEIS was distributed to all interested parties identified during scoping. The public was extended invitation to pose questions, obtain clarification of information in the document, voice opinions and make comments at an open house in Evanston, WY and an open house and a public meeting in Salt Lake City, UT.

During the comment period which began on December 24, 1992 and closed on February 19, 1993, after being extended, one hundred and twenty-one letters and comments were received. These comments were reviewed and analyzed, including a few comments that were received after the comment period was closed. Based on the review of the comments along with additional analysis initiated from public and agency comments the FEIS was completed.

This decision represents the final decision of the BLM, District Manager, Salt Lake District, Utah. Any party adversely affected by the Salt Lake District Manager's decision may request a State Director review in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR 3165.3. Such request, including all supporting documentation, shall be filed with the State Director, BLM, Utah State Office, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155 within 20 business days from receipt of this decision. Any party who is adversely affected by the State Director's decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals as provided in 43 CFR 3165.4.

Deane H. Zeller  
Signature

July 5, 1995  
Date

DISTRICT MANAGER  
Title

RT

# Permit Issued To Drill for Oil On North Slope

By Mike Gorrell  
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

A Texas oil company received approval Thursday to drill an exploratory oil well on the north slope of the Uinta Mountains.

Deane Zeller, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Salt Lake District manager, granted the permit to Houston-based Amerac Energy Corp., which took over the "Table Top" application when Chevron U.S.A. abandoned its drilling plans last August.

"It's a very attractive prospect," said Amerac spokesman Jeff Robinson of the exploratory well, 2 miles east of the Mirror Lake Highway and several miles south of the North Slope Road.

Its location in the evening shadows of the High Uintas Wilderness Area, and the fact that part of its access road passes through a roadless area, had prompted the Utah Wilderness Association (UWA) to fight vigorously against Chevron's drilling efforts.

UWA spokesman George Nickas was disappointed by Zeller's decision, but uncertain what course of action his organization might take.

It could appeal to the BLM state director within 20 business days, and later to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. Another avenue that remains open is a federal-court challenge to the U.S. Forest Service's January 1994 decision granting oil companies the right to use the land surface for access roads and a drill pad.

"We were waiting for the BLM's decision before we chose what we were going to do on the Forest Service appeal," Nickas said. "Our attorneys will have to decide if there is something to challenge. It may be that the BLM is rubberstamping the Forest Service's decision to open one of the most beautiful places in Utah to drilling and there's nothing we can do about it."

Robinson said he hopes the lengthy permit-approval process has gotten beyond the appeals option, while Zeller maintained BLM's decision was rendered after "full review and public participation" consistent with requirements "for prudent development and recovery of oil and gas."

Amerac, formerly known as Wolverine Exploration Co., had the second ownership interest in the decades-old lease and quickly took over the permit application after Chevron withdrew, citing projections of low oil prices.

"We were the logical successor to Chevron," Robinson said. "By accepting the application-to-drill permit, we took whatever steps were necessary to preserve the opportunity to test the prospect that lies under Table Top."

"All exploratory wells have a certain amount of risk. This prospect has the inherent risks, but it is well-supported technically and

# Permit Issued To Drill for Oil On North Slope

Continued from C-8

has a lot of appeal."

Robinson would not speculate on when Amerac intends to drill, how deep it expects to hit an oil-and-gas reservoir or projected costs, saying only that "we do not have immediate plans to drill."

Even so, all Amerac requires now from the Forest Service is a road-use permit and several other cleanup matters. "It's just a mat-

ter of doing the paperwork," said Evanston District Ranger Steve Ryberg, adding it is conceivable exploration could begin this year — unless there are appeals.

While the UWA considers its options in this particular case, Nickas said he is more concerned about an ongoing Forest Service EIS on the possible opening of the Uintas' entire north slope to oil and gas leasing.

Coupled with projected logging in the Uintas, he said, "we're in store for a complete change in the character of Utah's wildest mountain range. That's the course the Forest Service is laying out. The only thing that will change that course is for the hundreds of thousands of Utahns who use the Uintas for recreation to come to the rescue of the mountains."

# Homeowners May Not Gain From Olympics

Continued from C-8

ganizing Committee, has been set up to facilitate that activity.

"For thousands of visitors, we think the ideal way for them to experience Utah will be to stay in private residences," says Thomas Moore, president of Utah Hospitality 2002.

Moore says speculation that most Utah homeowners will be able to get as much as \$5,000 renting their homes for the 16 days is "overblown." But he adds they could get \$150 or more a night, depending upon the quality of

their homes.

Kathy Bruce, spokeswoman for the Calgary Real Estate Board, says many residents there rented homes and rooms during the 1988 games. "Some did not do too badly financially in that respect," Bruce says.

Mike Korologos, spokesman for the Salt Lake Olympic Organizing Committee, says the committee hopes to eventually set up a bureau that will orchestrate the housing aspects of the Games.

The bureau will encourage anyone who wants to provide housing to attend informational meetings about the process that could include both Olympic, state and local licensing procedures.

"We're not necessarily encouraging anyone to rent their homes, but if they want to, they need to know what will be involved," he says. "The planning process for this will evolve over the next few years."

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CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.  
 ROCKY MOUNTAIN PROD. BUSINESS UNIT  
 DRILLING PROGRAM<sup>1</sup>

Prospect Name: Table Top  
 Well Name: Chevron Federal 1-16  
 Elevation: 9650' GL  
 Well TVD: 17,000'

Prospect Location: Utah/Summit Co.  
 Surf. Location: SWSW S16 T1N R10E  
 Bott. Hole Loc.: Straight Hole

**Conductor Pipe**

Hole Size: 24"

Proposed MD: 80'  
 Proposed TVD: 80'

Csg Program:	<u>Size</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Section Length</u>
	20"	J-55	94#	80'

Cmt Program: Lead Slurry: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tail Slurry: Readi-Mix  
 WOC Time: 12 hrs

**Surface Casing**

Hole Size: 17.5"

Proposed MD: 5000'  
 Proposed TVD: 5000'

Mud Program:	<u>Type</u>	<u>MW</u>	<u>FV</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Other</u>
	FW Gel	8.4+	+35	+15 cc	LCM and Gel sweeps as req'd

Csg Program:	<u>Size</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Section Length</u>
	13.375"	K-55	54.5#	5000'

Cmt Program: Lead Slurry: Class H w/FLA and Gel  
 Tail Slurry: Class H w/2% CaCl  
 WOC Time: 12 hrs

**Intermediate Casing**

Hole Size: 12.25"

Proposed MD: 12,700'  
 Proposed TVD: 12,700'

Mud Program:	<u>Type</u>	<u>MW</u>	<u>FV</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Other</u>
	Inhibitive polymer mud	9.0+	+35	+10 cc	Sweeps as req'd

Csg Program:	<u>Size</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Section Length</u>
	9.625"	K-55	36#	12,000'

Cmt Program: Lead Slurry: Class H w/FLA and Gel  
 Tail Slurry: Class H  
 WOC Time: 12 hrs

**CONFIDENTIAL**

<sup>1</sup>This drilling program is partially researched and should not be used for cost appropriations nor construed as final in any form.

CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.  
 ROCKY MOUNTAIN PROD. BUSINESS UNIT  
 DRILLING PROGRAM

Production Liner

Hole Size: 8.5"

Proposed MD: 17,000'  
 Proposed TVD: 17,000'

Mud Program:	<u>Type</u>	<u>MW</u>	<u>FV</u>	<u>WL</u>	<u>Other</u>
	FW Gel	9.0+	+35	+10 cc	Sweeps as req'd

Csg Program:	<u>Size</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Section Length</u>
	7"	N-80	26#	5,500'

Cmt Program: Lead Slurry: Class H w/FLA and Gel  
 WOC Time: 24 hrs

AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT

Mud Logging Unit	@	<u>+2500'</u>	Rotating Head	@	<u>N/A</u>
Geolograph	@	<u>Spud</u>	Degasser	@	<u>N/A</u>
Visulogger	@	<u>Spud</u>	Desilter	@	<u>Spud</u>
Diverter System	@	<u>5000'</u>	Centrifuge	@	<u>Spud</u>
Adj. Choke	@	<u>5000'</u>	Mud Cleaner	@	<u>Spud</u>
PVT/Flowmeter	@	<u>Spud</u>	H <sub>2</sub> S Safety Eqpmt	@	<u>N/A</u>
Trip Tank	@	<u>Spud</u>			
Other		<u>Upper &amp; Lower kelly cock valves, IBOP, full opening DP safety valve</u>			
		<u>@ spud to match DP &amp; DC's</u>			

OTHER INFORMATION

Inspect BHA After	<u>200</u>	Rotating Hours
Inclination Surveys Every	<u>500'</u>	In Straight Hole
Check Drlg. Breaks Below	<u>1000'</u>	For Flow
Fill Drill Pipe Every	<u>30</u>	Stands When Running A Float
Fill Casing Every	<u>Single</u>	Jt

*[Handwritten signature]*

**CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN PROD. BUSINESS UNIT  
GEOLOGICAL PROGRAM**

Field/Area: Table Top Prospect Well Name: Chevron Federal 1-16  
 Surface Location: SWSW Sec 16 T1N R10E State/County: Utah/Summit  
 Est. Surface Elevation: 9650' GL TD: 17,000' TVD: 17,000'  
 Type Of Completion: Undetermined at this time

<u>Objective Formation</u>	<u>Expected Depth</u>	<u>Expected Lithology</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>Quaternary</u>	<u>Surface</u>	<u>Conglomerate</u>	<u>Fresh Water Zone</u>
<u>Uinta Mtn Grp</u>	<u>50'</u>	<u>Quartz/Shale</u>	<u>Lost Circ Zones</u>
<u>Lower Mesezoic</u>	<u>5,000'</u>	<u>Sand/Shale</u>	<u>Steep Dips/Fractures</u>
<u>Hilliard</u>	<u>9,000'</u>	<u>Shale</u>	<u>Sloughing Shale</u>
<u>Frontier</u>	<u>12,700'</u>	<u>Sand/Shale</u>	
<u>Dakota</u>	<u>14,100'</u>	<u>Sand/Shale</u>	
<u>Morrison</u>	<u>14,650'</u>	<u>Shale</u>	

Expected Bottom Hole Temperature And Pressure: 210 °F, 7350 psi

**Formation Evaluation Program:**

Wireline Logging:

Conductor - TD: DIL-SFL-GR-SP, Sonic-GR-CAL, Dipmeter  
Surface - TD: Checkshot  
Interm. - TD: LDT-CNL-GR-CAL

Mud Logging: Two Man Unit w/FID Chromatograph From 2500'-TD  
 Coring/DST: One 60' Core In Frontier, One 60' Core In Dakota, One DST In Frontier

**OFFSET WELL DATA**

<u>Well Name &amp; Number</u>	<u>Operator</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>1. Dahlgreen Cr 21x-9</u>	<u>Shell</u>	<u>NENW S9 T2N R14E</u>
<u>2. Thousand Peaks R. #1</u>	<u>Texaco</u>	<u>SENW S12 T1N R8E</u>
<u>3. Cow Hollow #1</u>	<u>Am. Quasar</u>	<u>NWNW S17 T2N R11E</u>

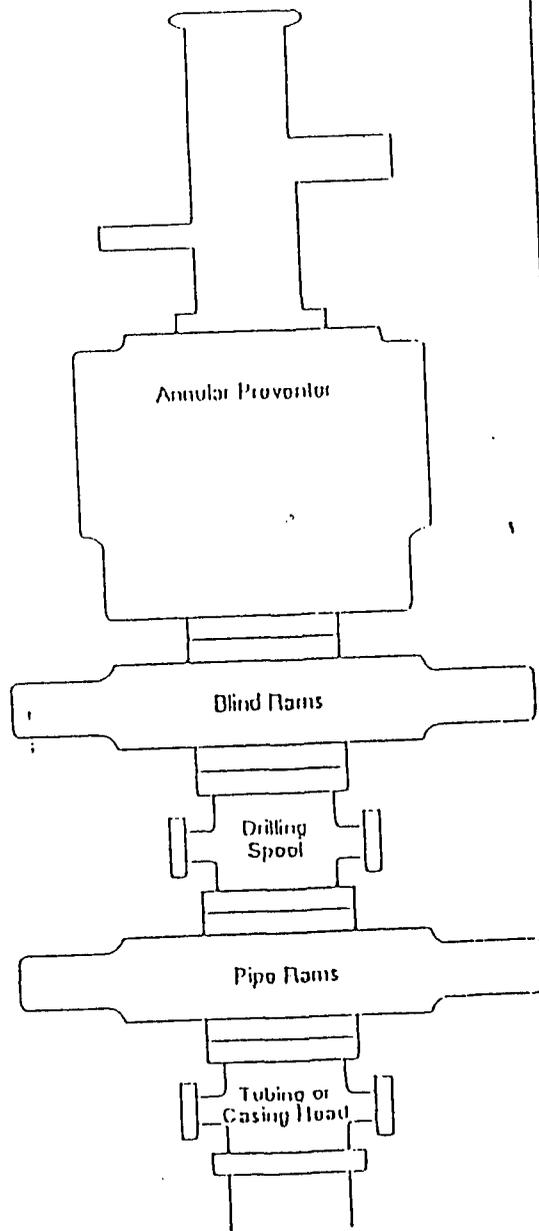
**CONFIDENTIAL**

ATTACHMENT C  
CHEVRON DRILLING REFERENCE SERIES  
VOLUME ELEVEN  
WELL CONTROL AND BLOWOUT PREVENTION

E. CLASS III BLOWOUT PREVENTER STACK:

The Class III preventer stack is designed for drilling or workover operations. It is composed of a single hydraulically operated annular preventer on top, then a blind ram preventer, a drilling spool, and a single pipe ram preventer on bottom. The choke and kill lines are installed onto the drilling spool and must have a minimum internal diameter of 3". All side outlets on the preventers or drilling spool must be flanged, sludded, or clamped. An emergency kill line may be installed on the wellhead. A double ram preventer should only be used when space limitations make it necessary to remove the drilling spool. In these instances, the choke manifold should be connected to a flanged outlet between the preventer rams only. In this hookup, the pipe rams are considered master rams only, and cannot be used to routinely circulate out a kick. The Class III blowout preventer stack is shown to the right in Figure 11J.4.

Figure 11J.4  
Class III Blowout Preventer Stack

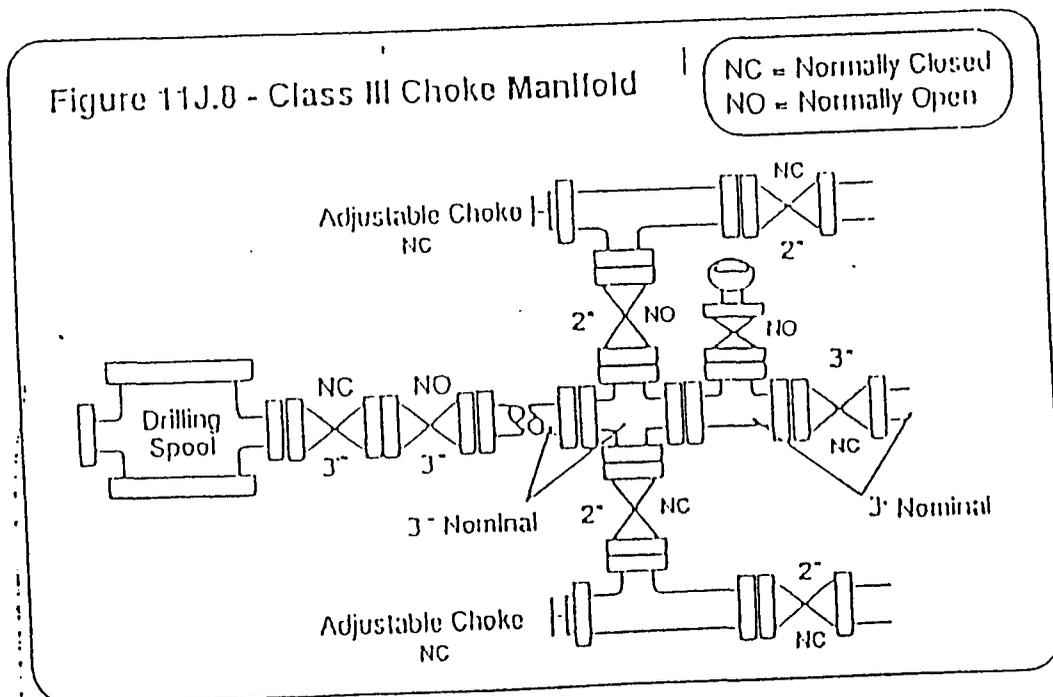


ATTACHMENT D  
 CHEVRON DRILLING REFERENCE SERIES  
 VOLUME ELEVEN  
 WELL CONTROL AND BLOWOUT PREVENTION

D. CLASS III CHOKE MANIFOLD

The Class III choke manifold is suitable for Class III workovers and drilling operations. The Standard Class III choke manifold is shown in Figure 11J.8 below. Specific design features of the Class III manifold include:

1. The manifold is attached to a drilling spool or the top ram preventer side outlet.
2. The minimum internal diameter is 3" (nominal) for outlets, flanges, valves and lines.
3. Includes two steel gate valves in the choke line at the drilling spool outlet. The inside choke line valve may be remotely controlled (I-ICFI).
4. Includes two manually adjustable chokes which are installed on both side of the manifold cross. Steel Isolation gate valves are installed between both chokes and the cross, and also downstream of both chokes.
5. Includes a bleed line which runs straight through the cross and is isolated by a steel gate valve.
6. Includes a valve isolated pressure gauge suitable for drilling service which can display the casing pressure within view of the choke operator.
7. Returns through the choke manifold must be divertible through a mud-gas separator and then be routed to either the shale shaker or the reserve pit through a buffer tank or manifold arrangement.
8. If the choke manifold is remote from the wellhead, a third master valve should be installed immediately upstream of the manifold cross.

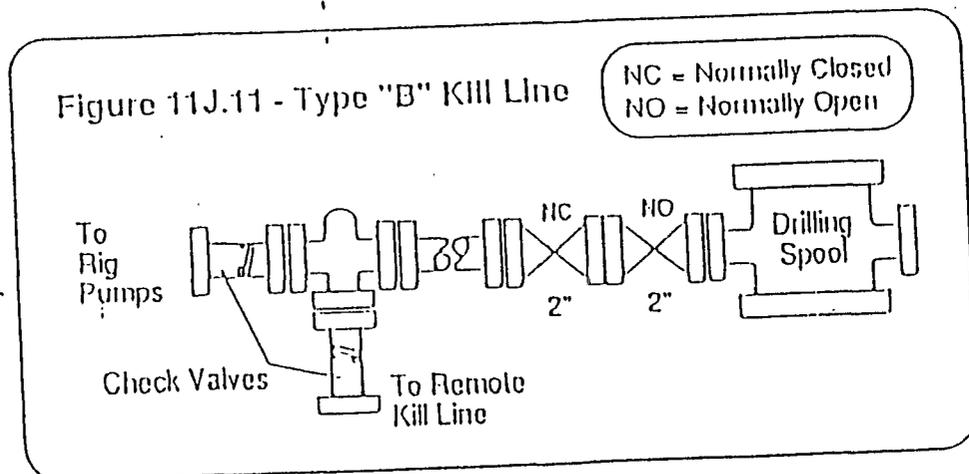


ATTACHMENT E  
CHEVRON DRILLING REFERENCE SERIES  
VOLUME ELEVEN  
WELL CONTROL AND BLOWOUT PREVENTION

D. TYPE "B" KILL LINE — CLASS III, IV, AND V WELLS

The type B kill line described below in Figure 11J.11 is the minimum recommended hookup for installation on all Class III, Class IV and Class V wells. Specific design features of the type B kill line include:

1. The preferred kill line connection to the well is at the drilling spool, however, a preventer side outlet may be used when space restrictions exclude the use of a drilling spool. In all cases, the kill line must be installed below the uppermost blind rams so the well can be pumped into with no pipe in the hole.
2. The arrangement includes two - 2" (nominal) gate valves installed at the drilling spool and an upstream fluid cross. The outside valve may be hydraulically remote controlled.
3. Two pump-in lines should be attached to the fluid cross. The primary kill line should be routed to the rig standpipe where it can be manifolded to the rig pumps. The remote kill line should be run to a safe location away from the rig or to the rig cementing unit. The remote kill line should have a loose end connection for rigging-up a high pressure pumping unit.
4. Both the primary kill line and the remote kill line must include a 2" check valve which is in working condition while drilling. If a check valve is crippled for testing purposes, the flapper or ball must be re-installed and tested before drilling resumes.
5. The primary kill line must include a pressure gauge which can display the pump-in pressure on the rig floor.
6. Any lines which are installed at the wellhead are designated as "emergency kill lines" and should only be used if the primary and remote kill lines are inoperable.



## DRILLING PROGRAM ATTACHMENT

### GENERAL REMARKS

1. Applicable Federal and State Regulations will be adhered to during the drilling of this well.
2. The drilling rig is to be level and the kelly centered over the hole before drilling operations commence. Check periodically during the drilling of the well to insure the rig stays level.
3. Prior to spud insure all toolpushers, drillers and crews are thoroughly familiar with and understand the Chevron procedure for handling well kicks.  
  
In H<sub>2</sub>S environments Chevron's contingency plan for your location is to be read, understood and adhered to. All personnel are to be thoroughly familiar with the use of air packs, the air supply system, locations of air packs and what to do in the event of sour gas to surface.
4. Test BOPE before drilling out and every seven days thereafter. Perform low pressure test (200 psi) and high pressure test. High pressure test should be 70% of BOPE working pressure or 70% of burst of last casing string, whichever is less. Record BOP tests on Tour Reports. Notify applicable Federal and State Regulatory Agencies 24 hours in advance of BOPE tests and record notification and names on Tour Reports.
5. Do not reuse ring gaskets. Replace with new Rx or Bx ring gaskets.
6. Separate full opening safety valves and inside BOP's are required for each size drill pipe in use. Test weekly with BOPE.
7. Run full open valve below kelly that can be run in the hole if necessary. Do not use this valve as a mud saver sub.
8. BOP controls are to remain in the open position during drilling operations.
9. Hold pit drills for each crew at least once every seven days and record on Tour Reports.
10. On trips fill the annulus before hydrostatic pressure drops 75 psi or every 5 stds of drill pipe, whichever is first. Use trip tanks to measure hole fill-up and monitor at all times.
11. Use drill pipe floats at all times unless your supervisor instructs otherwise.
12. Have wear ring installed in wellhead before tripping or rotating. Remember to remove wear ring before running casing or when testing BOPE.

13. Casing rams are to be installed and bonnets tested on last trip out before running casing.
14. Run pilot and thickening time tests with rig mixing water for all cement slurries prior to cementing operations.
15. Casing should be tested to 1,500 psi or 0.2 psi/ft., whichever is greater, prior to drilling out and recorded on Tour Reports. Discuss the test pressure with your supervisor and reference DM-49 before testing.
16. Drill out slick beneath each casing string. Drill deep enough to bury stabilization to be picked up.
17. Do not drill with hardbanded pipe inside of casing.
18. Do not run full gauge stabilizers. Run stabilizers 1/16" to 1/8" undergauge.
19. When necessary to work pipe, keep pipe moving up and down. Rotating alone is not considered sufficient.
20. Install and test full lubricator on all logging runs unless instructed otherwise by supervisor.
21. Fully describe damaged or lost equipment on Tour Reports.

CHEVRON U.S.A. PRODUCTION COMPANY  
CHEVRON FEDERAL 1-16  
SEC. 16, T1N, R10E  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH

1. EXISTING ROADS

A. See Exhibit A. We do not plan to change, alter or improve upon any existing state or county roads.

B. Access to the proposed site proceeds from Evanston, Wyoming, south on Highway 150 (Mirror Lake Highway) approximately 33 miles to the intersection of the Mirror Lake Highway and Stillwater Road (Forest Road No. 057) in Summit County, Utah. From the intersection with Stillwater Road, the access would then proceed in a southerly direction about 0.8 miles to the fork of Stillwater and Peninsula roads. Follow the Peninsula Road to its end (about 1.7 miles).

2. PLANNED ACCESS

Approximately 0.8 mile of the existing Peninsula Road needs to be upgraded and will need to be widened where trees have grown into the ditches and road shoulders. In addition, several curves require widening. A 4" cap of 2" minus native material will be applied.

From the end of Peninsula Road, approximately 2.8 miles of new road will be constructed to the proposed well site.

A detailed road design will be provided under separate cover.

A. Maximum width: 14 foot travel surface.

B. Maximum sustained grade: 8%.

C. Drainage design: Wet areas/riparian habitat will be avoided, where possible, and an undisturbed buffer strip of vegetation left between these areas and the road to help in controlling any sediment runoff from the road. Drainage culverts will be 18 inch minimum. 24" culverts will be placed in areas of water movement.

D. Surface materials: During the exploratory phase of the project will be 2 inch and less screened native material. If the well is successful, a gravel surface meeting Forest Service specifications will be spread on the road as soon as reasonable.

E. Turnouts: As shown in road design detail.

F. Cuts and fills: As shown in road design detail.

G. Gates, cattleguards, fence cuts: Where required.

Construction will not take place with frozen earth or during extremely muddy conditions. The road will be dampened to control dust.

3. LOCATION OF EXISTING WELLS

Wolverine - approximately 2 miles northeast, is a dry hole.

4. LOCATION OF EXISTING AND/OR PROPOSED FACILITIES

See Exhibits A and C.

Production facilities on location would include a flare pit, separator, 3 - 400 barrel oil tanks and 1 - 400 barrel tank (based on an estimated 600 to 650 bbl/day produced) for produced water if the well is successful.

A blooie pit 8' x 10' x 5' deep will be constructed 150' diagonally from the center hole. A line will be placed on the surface from the center hole to the burn pit.

5. LOCATION AND TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY

We propose to drill a water source well on the location. This will be permitted with the Utah State Engineer. In addition, we propose to apply for a water haul permit from the bridge crossing on the Stillwater to begin construction of the road and also from the crossing on the Main Fork as a backup source to the water well, as well as for construction of the access and location. This water may be pumped through a temporary line to the pad or hauled by truck from the closest Main Fork crossing.

6. SOURCE OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

All construction materials not obtained onsite will come commercially from the local area. We propose to use a source near the access road to gravel the road and location. A rock crusher and/or screen will be moved onto the site. The gravel pit will be rehabed following use.

7. METHODS FOR HANDLING WASTE DISPOSAL

A reserve pit 86' x 221' x 23' deep will be constructed on site to store drilling cuttings and produced fluids and drilling-rig wash. The pit will be lined with an artificial polyurethane liner (burst strength of 450 psi).

Following drilling, if the well is unsuccessful, as much of the liquid waste as is possible will be reinjected downhole prior to plugging. The remaining liquids will be removed and transported to an approved disposal site.

In the event fluids are produced, any oil will be retained in tankage until sold and any water produced will be retained until its quality is determined. The quality and quantity of water produced will then determine the necessary disposal

procedure.

Sewage will be disposed of in a 1,000 gallon fiberglass insulated holding tank, which is to be placed in the vicinity of the trailers on the well location. Portable chemical toilets will also be placed onsite for the crews. Arrangements will be made for the sewage to be transported from the wellsite to an approved disposal facility in the area.

Trash will be contained in a portable metal container and hauled periodically to the Evanston landfill.

#### 8. ANCILLARY FACILITIES

Due to the proximity of available housing the only ancillary facilities needed will be four trailers to be placed on the drillsite to house the drill rep, tool pusher, geologist and mud logger.

#### 9. WELLSITE LAYOUT

Six to eight inches of topsoil will be removed from the location and stockpiled. Location of mud tanks, reserve, burn pit, and soil stockpiles will be located as shown on Exhibits B and C.

A ditch above the pad will be constructed to divert natural runoff around and away from the pad.

#### 10. PLANS FOR RESTORATION OF SURFACE

After drilling when the pit is no longer needed, and fluids are removed and disposed of appropriately, the pit liner will be buried in place and the pit backfilled and returned to natural grade.

The well will be completed in early 1994. Rehabilitation will commence the following season. If the wellsite is to be abandoned, the exploratory well and the water source well will be plugged, all debris removed from the access and drill pad and the disturbed surface graded to approximately the original contours, topsoil replaced, water bars constructed as needed and revegetation would be done with an approved seed mix prescribed by the Forest Service.

#### 11. SURFACE OWNERSHIP

The wellsite and access road are all on Forest Service owned surface. The operator shall contact the Forest Service office in Evanston, Wyoming at (307) 789-3194 between 24 and 48 hours prior to construction activities.

12. OTHER INFORMATION

A cultural resource inventory has been conducted and copies of the report will be sent to the Forest Service and SHPO.

Merchantable timber removed during construction will be purchased by Chevron and hauled off site.

Stumps and timber slash will be piled in pre-approved pits, burned and then buried. Slash may be used in approved places to trap sediment.

13. COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. J. F. NewVille  
P. O. Box 599  
Denver, Colorado 80201

I hereby certify that I, or persons under my direct supervision, have inspected the proposed drillsite and access route; that I am familiar with the conditions which presently exist; that the statements made in this plan are, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct; and, that the work associated with the operations proposed herein will be performed by Chevron Production Company and its contractors and subcontractors in conformity with this plan and the terms and conditions under which it is approved.

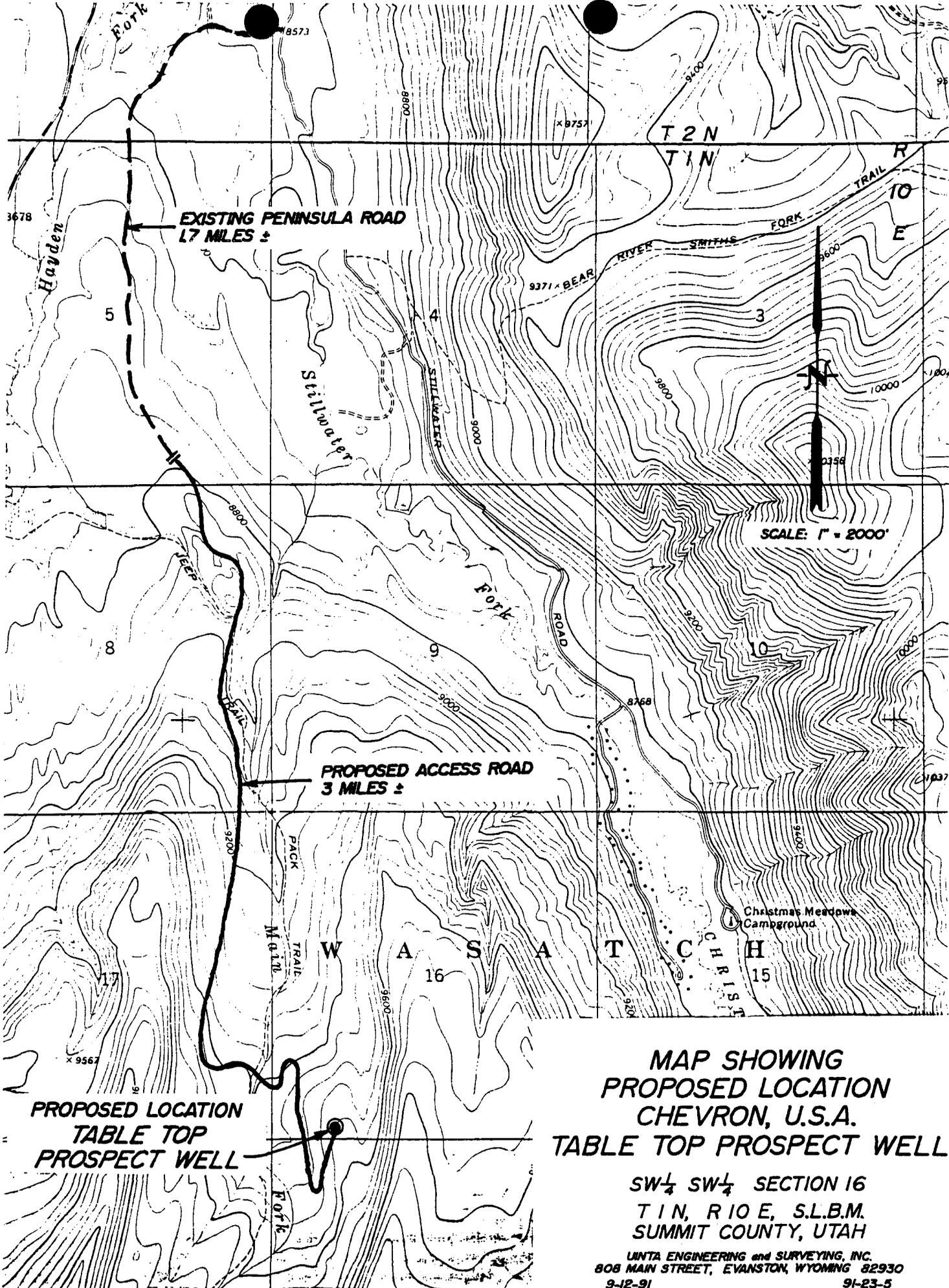
-----  
Date 6/8/92

J. F. NewVille  
-----  
J. F. NewVille  
Environment, Safety, Fire  
and Health Manager

JLW

Attachments:

- Exhibit A - Proposed Location and Access
- Exhibit B & C - Well Pad Layout
- Exhibit D & E - Well Pad Cross Sections
- Exhibit F - Drill Site Plan



**MAP SHOWING  
PROPOSED LOCATION  
CHEVRON, U.S.A.  
TABLE TOP PROSPECT WELL**

**SW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  SECTION 16  
T 1 N, R 10 E, S.L.B.M.  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**

**UNTA ENGINEERING and SURVEYING, INC.  
808 MAIN STREET, EVANSTON, WYOMING 82930  
9-12-91 91-23-5**

**"A"**

# CHEVRON U.S.A. TABLE TOP PROSPECT

(WELL PAD)

1161' FROM WEST LINE  
244' FROM SOUTH LINE  
SECTION 16, T1N, R10E, S.L.B.M.  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH

### BASIS OF ELEVATION

ELEVATIONS BASED ON USGS SPOT ELEVATION 8768  
LOCATED IN SW 1/4 SECTION 10, T1N, R10E, S.L.B.M.  
FINISHED PAD ELEVATION TO BE 9568.0'

### QUANTITIES

TOTAL EXCAVATION = 25,164 C.Y.  
TOTAL EMBANKMENT = 24,884 C.Y.  
TOTAL SPOIL = 280 C.Y.  
TOTAL TOPSOIL = 3,230 C.Y.

RESERVE PIT CAPACITY = 10,660 C.Y. = 51,264 BBL.  
(INCLUDED IN ABOVE EXC. QUANTITY)

WELL PAD ELEVATION IS BASED ON A 1:1 EMBANKMENT VS.  
EXCAVATION RATIO.

EMBANKMENT SHALL BE PLACED IN LAYERS NOT TO EXCEED  
6" - 8" AND SHALL BE COMPACTED WITH SHEEPFOOT TYPE ROLLER.

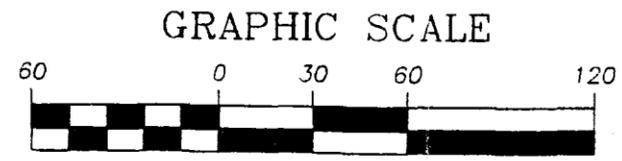
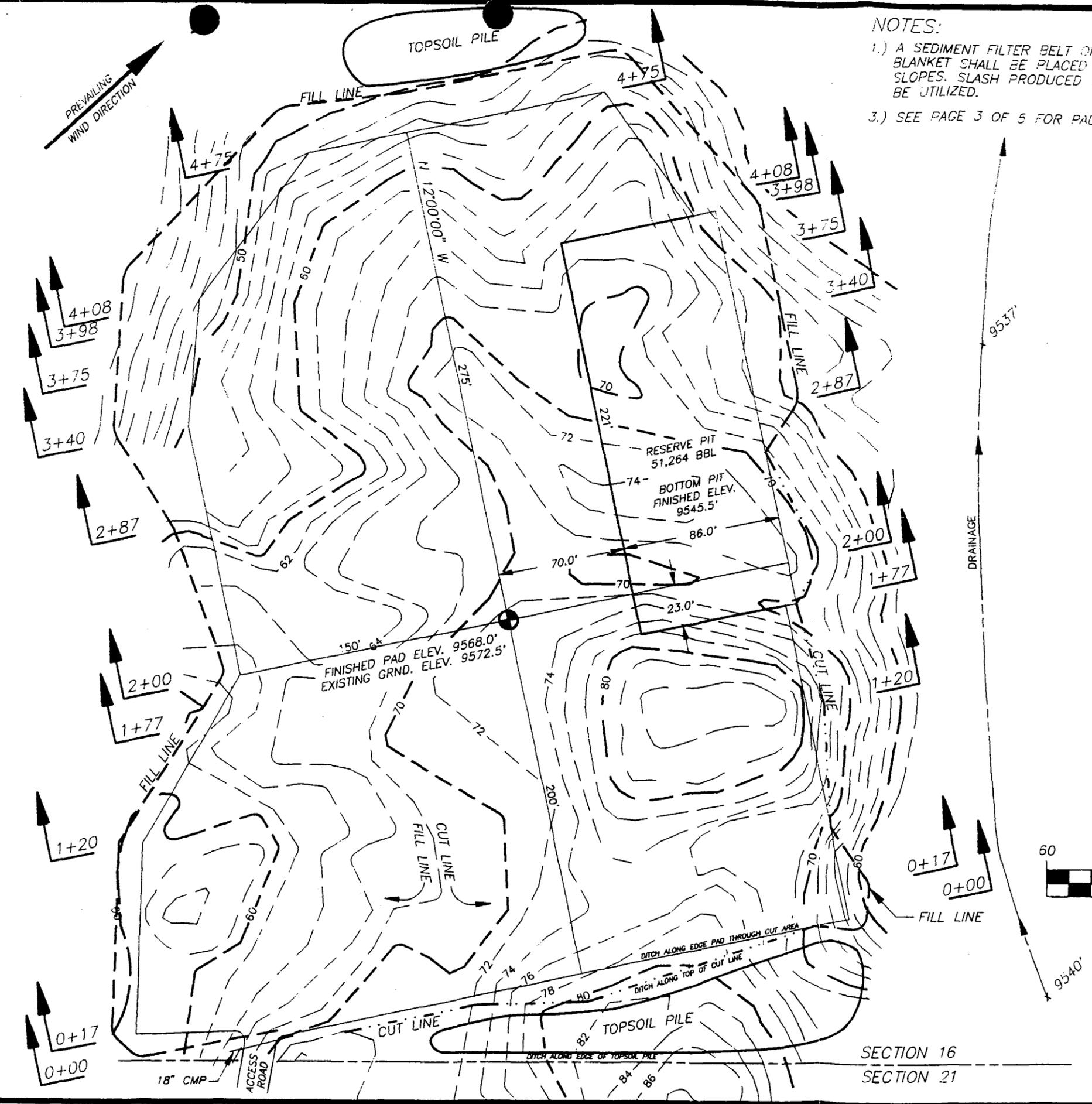
SURVEYED UNDER MY SUPERVISION IN  
JULY 1991

*John A. Proffit*  
JOHN A. PROFFIT UTAH R.L.S. #2860



### NOTES:

- 1.) A SEDIMENT FILTER BELT OR EROSION CONTROL BLANKET SHALL BE PLACED AT TOE OF ALL FILL SLOPES. SLASH PRODUCED WHILE CLEARING WILL BE UTILIZED.
- 3.) SEE PAGE 3 OF 5 FOR PAD LAYOUT DETAIL.



CONTOUR DATUM = 9500'  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 2'

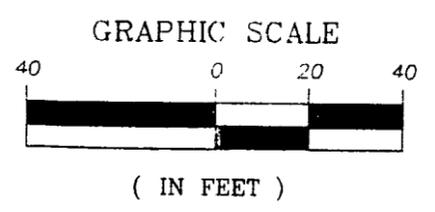
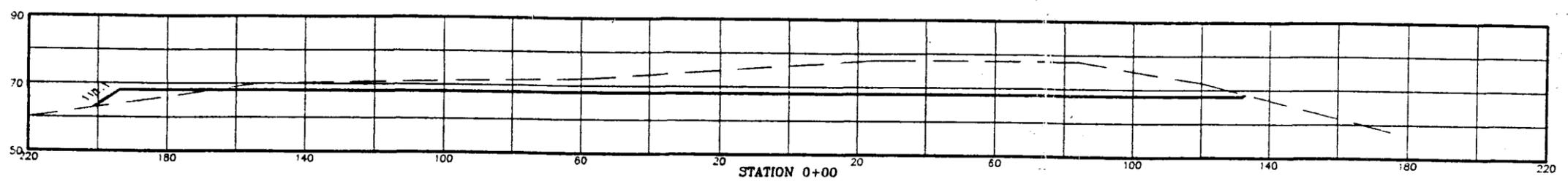
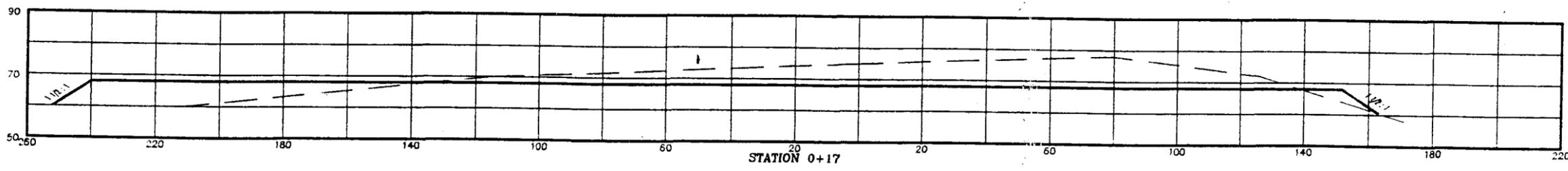
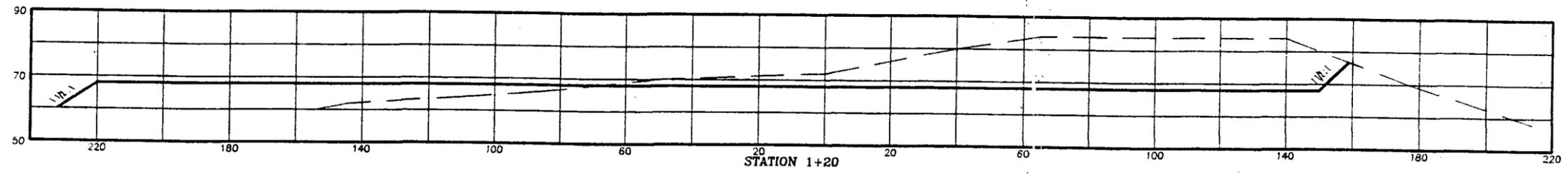
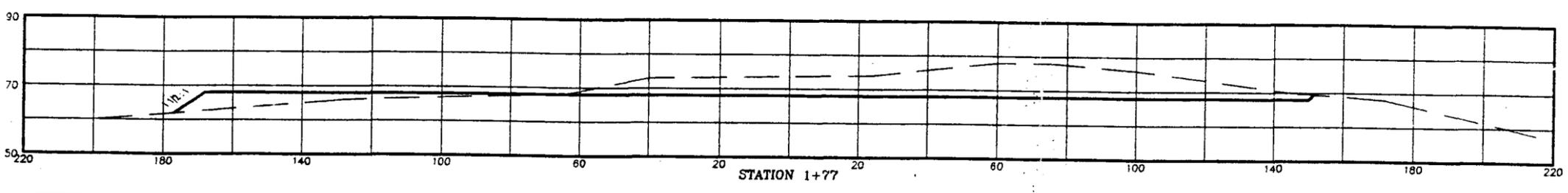
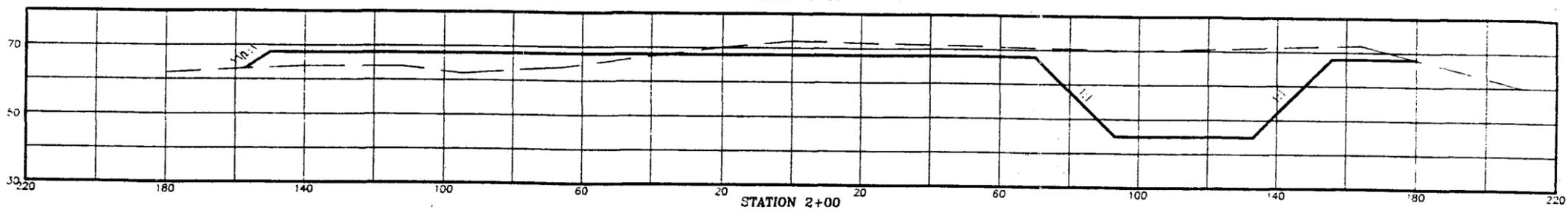
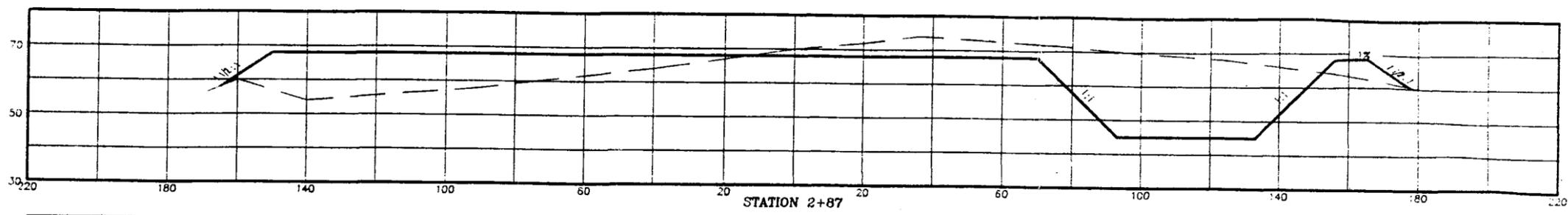
SECTION 16  
SECTION 21

UINTA ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.  
808 MAIN STREET  
EVANSTON, WYOMING 82930  
(307) 789-3602

DISK #: 071 FILE TOPO  
JOB #: 91-23-05 DATE: 04-07-92  
PAGE 2 OF 5

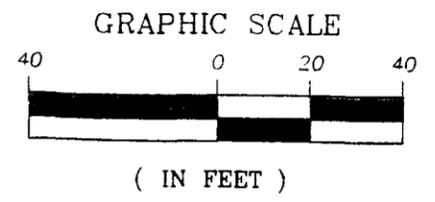
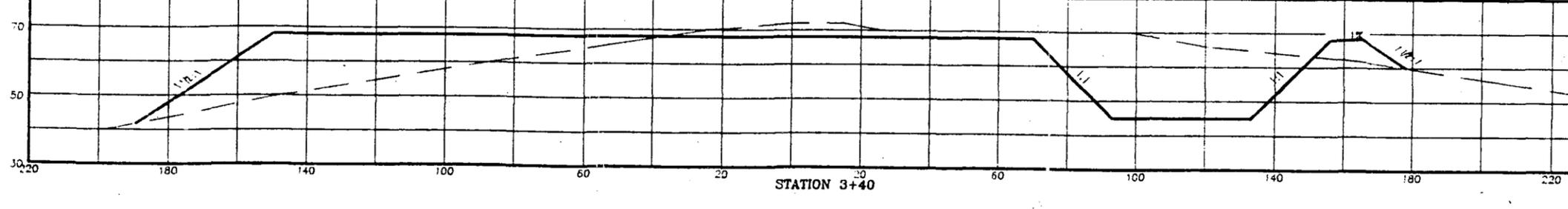
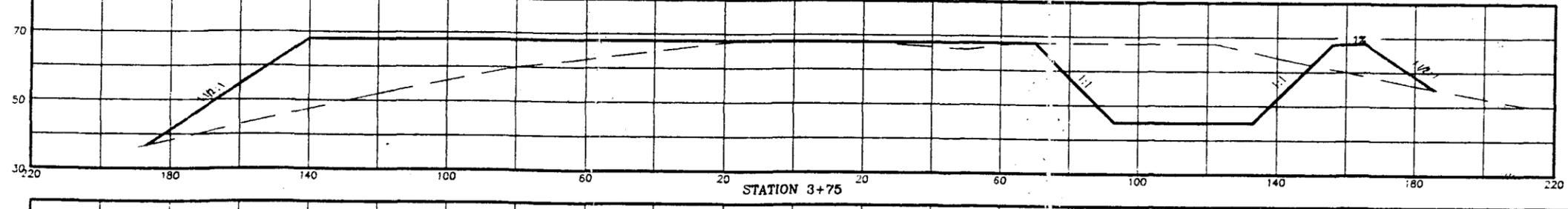
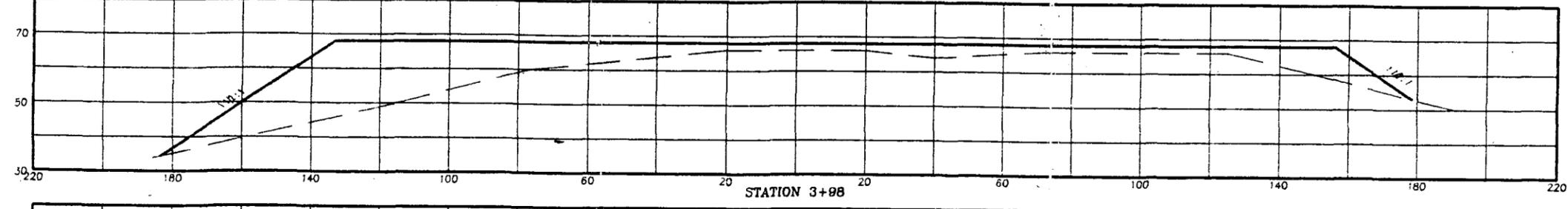
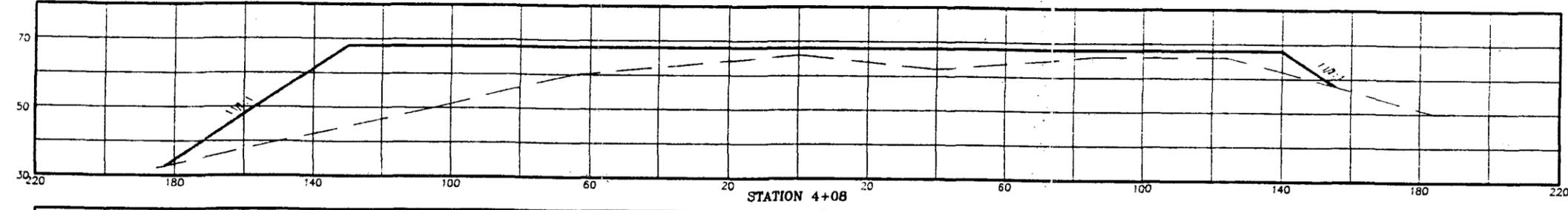
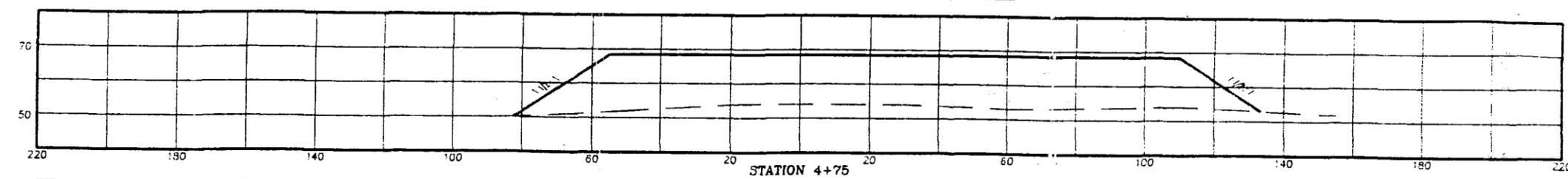


CHEVRON U.S.A.  
TABLE TOP PROSPECT  
(WELL PAD X-SECTIONS)



CHEVRON U.S.A.  
 TABLE TOP PROSPECT  
 (WELL PAD X-SECTIONS)

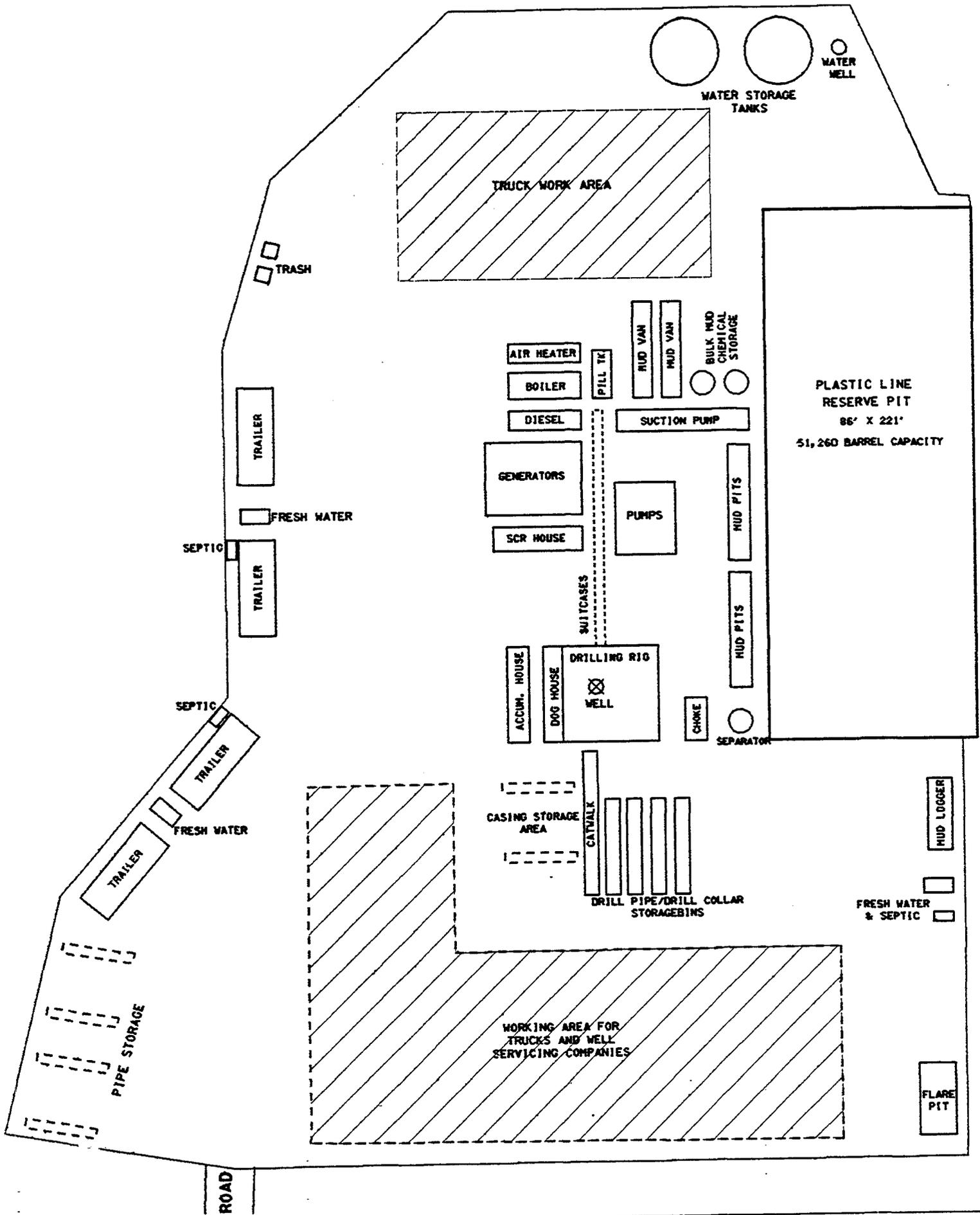
STATION	AREAS in SQ FT		VOLUMES in CU. YDS.	
	CUT	FILL	CUT	FILL
-0+30	0	0	979	38
0+00	1762	68	1039	220
0+17	1537	631	7192	2927
1+20	2233	904	3743	1201
1+77	1313	234	1432	296
2+00	2050	461	6244	2809
2+87	1825	1283	3414	2729
3+40	1653	1498	1944	2156
3+75	1347	1829	574	1769
3+98	0	2325	0	897
4+08	0	2521	0	6681
4+75	0	2864	0	1326
5+00	0	0	26561	23051



# TABLE TOP DRILLING SITE PLAN

"F"

SCALE: 1" = 50'



SPILL PREVENTION CONTROL AND COUNTERMEASURE PLAN  
OIL DRILLING AND WORKOVER OPERATIONS  
CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.

STREET AND MAILING ADDRESS

P. O. BOX 599  
DENVER, CO 80201

FACILITY RESPONSIBLE PERSON

B. L. HAYNES  
DENVER DIVISION DRILLING MANAGER

MANAGEMENT APPROVAL

This SPCC Plan for oil drilling and workover operations will be implemented as described herein.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*B. L. Haynes*  
*B. L. HAYNES, DIVISION DRILLING MANAGER*

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATION

I have examined Chevron oil drilling and workover operations and am familiar with the provisions of 40 CFR PART 112. This Plan has been prepared in accordance with good engineering practice and the requirements of 40 CFR PART 112.7.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No.: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*George L. Kirkland*  
*GEORGE L. KIRKLAND*  
*16784*  
*LOUISIANA*  
*6/17/88*

## GENERAL

This SPCC Plan has been prepared to conform with the requirements of 40 CFR Part 112 - Oil Pollution Prevention.

### A. Spill Experience (40 CFR 112.7(a))

This rig has not experienced any spill events within the twelve months preceding July 1, 1988, while under contract to Chevron. ("Spill event" as defined in 40 CFR Part 112.2 (i) is a discharge of oil into or upon the navigable waters of the United States or adjoining shorelines in harmful quantities.)

### B. Potential Spills (40 CFR 112.7(b))

The reasonably expected modes of major failure or accident in which diesel fuel could be spilled from the facility are the following:

#### 1. Diesel Tank Leak or Failure

- (i) Rate of flow: Variable - Depends on the size and location of the tank failure.
- (ii) Total quantity of oil which could be discharged: The total quantity of oil that could be discharged would not exceed the working capacity of the largest tank which is normally 100 barrels.
- (iii) Direction of flow: Drainage would be contained within the firewall dike around the tank or channeled to the reserve pit.

#### 2. Diesel Tank Overflow

There is a reasonable potential for tank overflow resulting from failure of overfill protection equipment while being filled by delivery truck.

- (i) Rate of flow: Not greater than 3 bbls. per minute, based on the average maximum delivery rate into tankage.
- (ii) Total quantity of oil which could be discharged: Variable. The total quantity spilled is proportional to the length of time the tank is overflowing.
- (iii) Direction of flow: Drainage would be contained within firewall dikes or channeled to the reserve pit.

3. Not applicable.

4. Not applicable.

5. Not applicable.

C. **CONTAINMENT, DRAINAGE CONTROL AND DIVERSIONARY STRUCTURES (40 CFR 112.7(c))**

The following secondary containment and diversionary structures to prevent oil discharges from reaching a navigable water course are provided:

Area	Containment
Diesel Tanks	Diking around perimeter of tank batteries which forms impoundment basins sized to hold the contents of the largest tank, plus enough freeboard to allow for precipitation, or channeling to reserve pit.

The secondary containment systems are sufficiently impervious to contain spilled oil until it can be removed.

D. **DEMONSTRATION OF IMPRACTICABILITY (40 CFR 112.7(d))**

Not applicable.

E. **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS (40 CFR 112.7(e))**

1. Not applicable.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. **Oil Drilling and Workover Facilities (onshore)**
  - (i) Mobile drilling and workover equipment is positioned to prevent spilled oil from reaching navigable waters.
  - (ii) Where necessary, catchment basins or diversion structures are constructed to intercept and contain spills of fuel, crude oil or oily drilling fluids.
  - (iii) Before drilling below any casing string or during workover operations, a Blowout Prevention (BOP) assembly and well control system is installed that is capable of controlling any anticipated pressure. Casing and BOP installations are in accordance with state and federal requirements.
7. Not applicable

8. **Inspection and records**

Inspections and BOP tests are in accordance with written procedures developed for drilling and workover operations by Chevron. All "spill events" are recorded on Company Form GO-140 and Federal Form NTL-3A and reported as required to the appropriate agencies.

9. **Not applicable**

10. **Training**

The Drilling Representative is responsible for making sure that personnel are familiar with the SPCC Plan, applicable laws and reporting procedures, as well as the operation and maintenance of equipment. The SPCC Plan is covered periodically at Safety Meetings where potential spills are discussed and action plans are reviewed. When a spill has occurred, including non-reportable types, the actual response is analyzed for improvements.

The Drilling Representative is responsible for oil spill prevention and reports to line management.



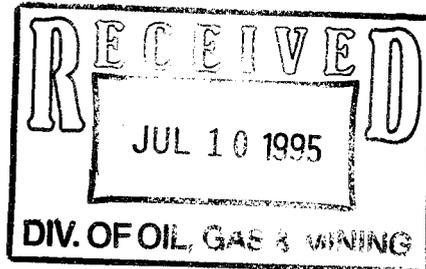
# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake District Office  
2370 South 2300 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3160  
U-24446  
O&G 8901  
(UT-025)



JUL 6 1995

Mr. James Carter  
State of Utah  
Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Carter:

Enclosed is a copy of the approved Application for Permit to Drill (APD) fact sheet and a location plat for Amerac Energy Corporation's, TTU-1, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 16, T.1 N., R.10 E., Summit County, Utah.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Dan Washington of my staff at (801) 524-4458.

Sincerely yours,

Deane H. Zeller  
District Manager

Enclosure

Amerac Energy Corporation's, TTU-1, APD fact sheet & location plat  
Record of Decision

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
**DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING**

**RECEIVED**  
SUBMIT IN TRIPPLICATE  
(Other instances reverse side)  
**JUL 10 1995**

Form approved.  
Budget Bureau No. 1004-0136  
Expires August 31, 1985

**APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, DEEPEN, OR PLUG BACK**

1a. TYPE OF WORK  
DRILL  DEEPEN  PLUG BACK   
b. TYPE OF WELL  
OIL WELL  GAS WELL  OTHER   
SINGLE ZONE  MULTIPLE ZONE

2. NAME OF OPERATOR Amerac Energy Corporation  
~~WOLVERINE EXPLORATION COMPANY~~  
3. ADDRESS OF OPERATOR  
700 Louisiana, Suite 3330, Houston, Texas 77002-2730

4. LOCATION OF WELL (Report location clearly and in accordance with any State requirements. +)  
At surface  
244' NSL, 1161' EWL  
At proposed prod. zone

14. DISTANCE IN MILES AND DIRECTION FROM NEAREST TOWN OR POST OFFICE+  
APPROXIMATELY 27 MILES SOUTHEAST OF EVANSTON, WYOMING

15. DISTANCE FROM PROPOSED+  
LOCATION TO NEAREST  
PROPERTY OR LEASE LINE, FT. 244'  
(Also to nearest drlg. unit line, if any)

16. NO. OF ACRES IN LEASE  
960

17. NO. OF ACRES ASSIGNED  
TO THIS WELL  
NA

18. DISTANCE FROM PROPOSED LOCATION+  
TO NEAREST WELL, DRILLING, COMPLETED,  
OR APPLIED FOR, ON THIS LEASE, FT. NA

20. ROTARY OR CABLE TOOLS  
ROTARY

5. LEASE DESIGNATION AND SERIAL NO.  
U - 24446

6. IF INDIAN, ALLOTTEE OR TRIBE NAME

7. UNIT AGREEMENT NAME  
TABLE TOP UNIT

8. FARM OR LEASE NAME

Table Top Unit

9. WELL NO.

TTU-1

10. FIELD AND POOL, OR WILDCAT  
WILDCAT

11. SEC., T., R., M., OR BLK.  
AND SURVEY OR AREA  
SEC. 16, T1N, R10E

12. COUNTY OR PARISH  
SUMMIT

13. STATE  
UTAH

24. SIGNED Mary Ann Arnold TITLE Executive Assistant DATE February 01, 1995

(This space for Federal or State office use)

PERMIT NO. 43-043-30312

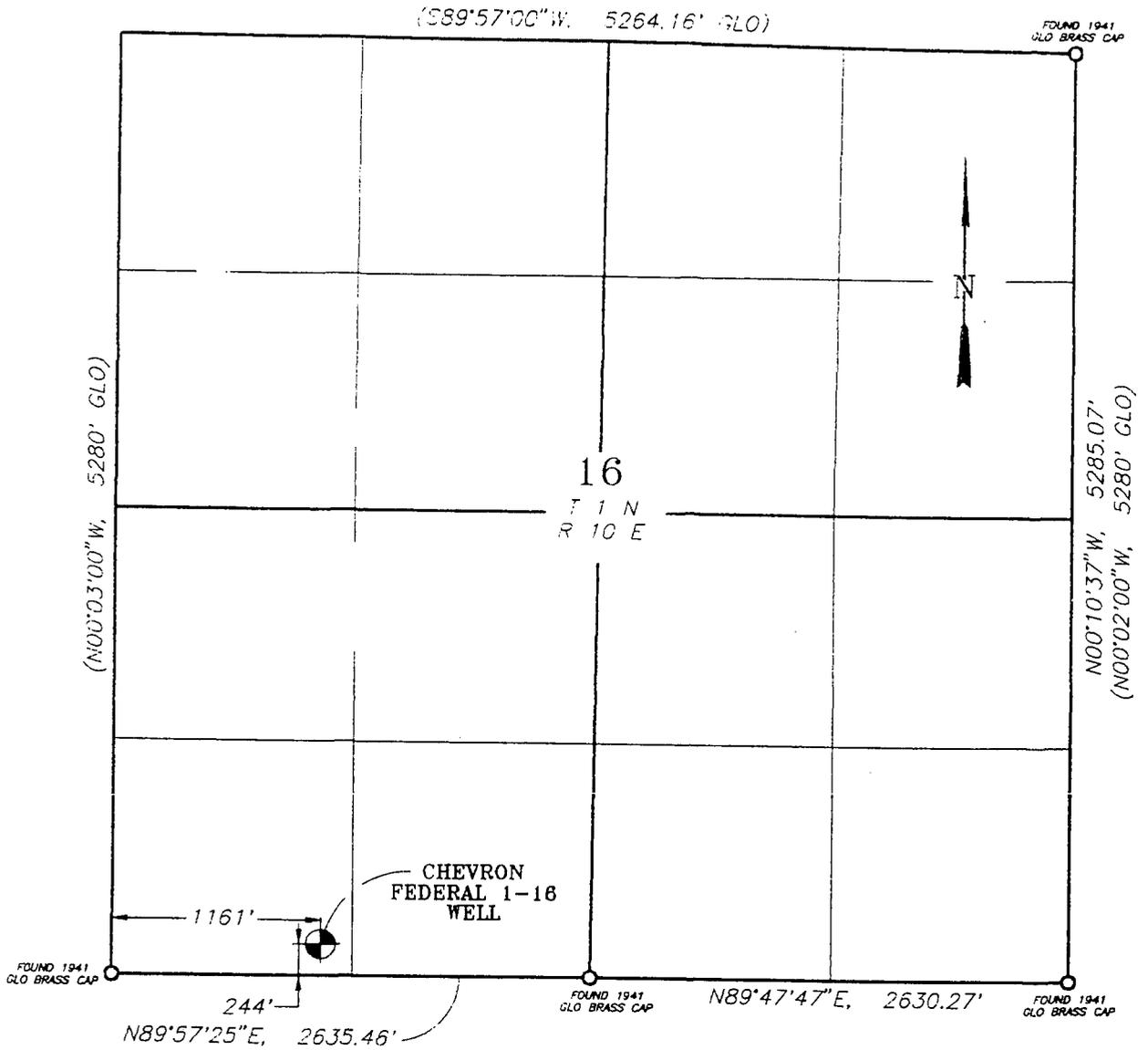
APPROVAL DATE JUL 05 1995

APPROVED BY Deane H. Zeller TITLE DISTRICT MANAGER DATE July 5, 1995  
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY:

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL ATTACHED  
TO OPERATOR'S COPY**

See Instructions On Reverse Side

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.



LOCATION MAP

MAP TO ACCOMPANY  
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL

TABLE TOP CREEK PROSPECT  
CHEVRON FEDERAL 1-16  
SW 1/4 SW 1/4 SECTION 16  
T 1 N, R 10 E, S.L.B.M.  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH

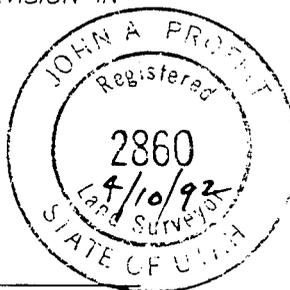
CHEVRON U.S.A.  
P.O. BOX 6004  
EVANSTON, WYOMING 82931

UINTA ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.  
808 MAIN STREET  
EVANSTON, WYOMING 82930  
(307) 789-3602

DISK #: 071 FILE: TOPO  
JOB #: 91-23-05 DATE: 04-07-92

DRAWN BY: Brent Sanders

SURVEYED UNDER MY SUPERVISION IN  
JULY 1991



*John A. Proffitt*  
JOHN A. PROFFITT UTAH R.L.S.#2860

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
**DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING**

RECEIVED  
SUBMIT WITH ORIGINAL TO OTHER AGENCY reverse side  
JUL 10 1995

Form approved.  
Budget Bureau No. 1004-0136  
Expires August 31, 1985

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL, DEEPEN, OR PLUG BACK

1a. TYPE OF WORK  
DRILL  DEEPEN  PLUG BACK   
b. TYPE OF WELL  
OIL WELL  GAS WELL  OTHER   
SINGLE ZONE  MULTIPLE ZONE

2. NAME OF OPERATOR Amerac Energy Corporation  
~~WOLVERINE EXPLORATION COMPANY~~  
3. ADDRESS OF OPERATOR  
700 Louisiana, Suite 3330, Houston, Texas 77002-2730

4. LOCATION OF WELL (Report location clearly and in accordance with any State requirements. +)  
At surface  
~~244' NSL, 1161' EWL~~ 244' PSL, 1161' PNL  
At proposed prod. zone  
SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

14. DISTANCE IN MILES AND DIRECTION FROM NEAREST TOWN OR POST OFFICE+  
APPROXIMATELY 27 MILES SOUTHEAST OF EVANSTON, WYOMING

15. DISTANCE FROM PROPOSED+  
LOCATION TO NEAREST  
PROPERTY OR LEASE LINE, FT. 244'  
(Also to nearest drlg. unit line, if any)

16. NO. OF ACRES IN LEASE  
960

17. NO. OF ACRES ASSIGNED  
TO THIS WELL  
NA

18. DISTANCE FROM PROPOSED LOCATION+  
TO NEAREST WELL, DRILLING, COMPLETED,  
OR APPLIED FOR, ON THIS LEASE, FT. NA

20. ROTARY OR CABLE TOOLS  
ROTARY

5. LEASE DESIGNATION AND SERIAL NO.  
U - 24446

6. IF INDIAN, ALLOTTEE OR TRIBE NAME

7. UNIT AGREEMENT NAME  
TABLE TOP UNIT

8. FARM OR LEASE NAME

Table Top Unit

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TTU-1

10. FIELD AND POOL, OR WILDCAT  
WILDCAT

11. SEC., T., R., M., OR BLK.  
AND SURVEY OR AREA  
SEC. 16, T1N, R10E

12. COUNTY OR PARISH  
SUMMIT

13. STATE  
UTAH

APPROVED BY THE STATE  
OF UTAH DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS, AND MINING

DATE: 7/5/95  
BY: [Signature]

24. SIGNED Mary Ann Arnold TITLE Executive Assistant DATE February 01, 1995

(This space for Federal or State office use)

PERMIT NO. 43-043-30312

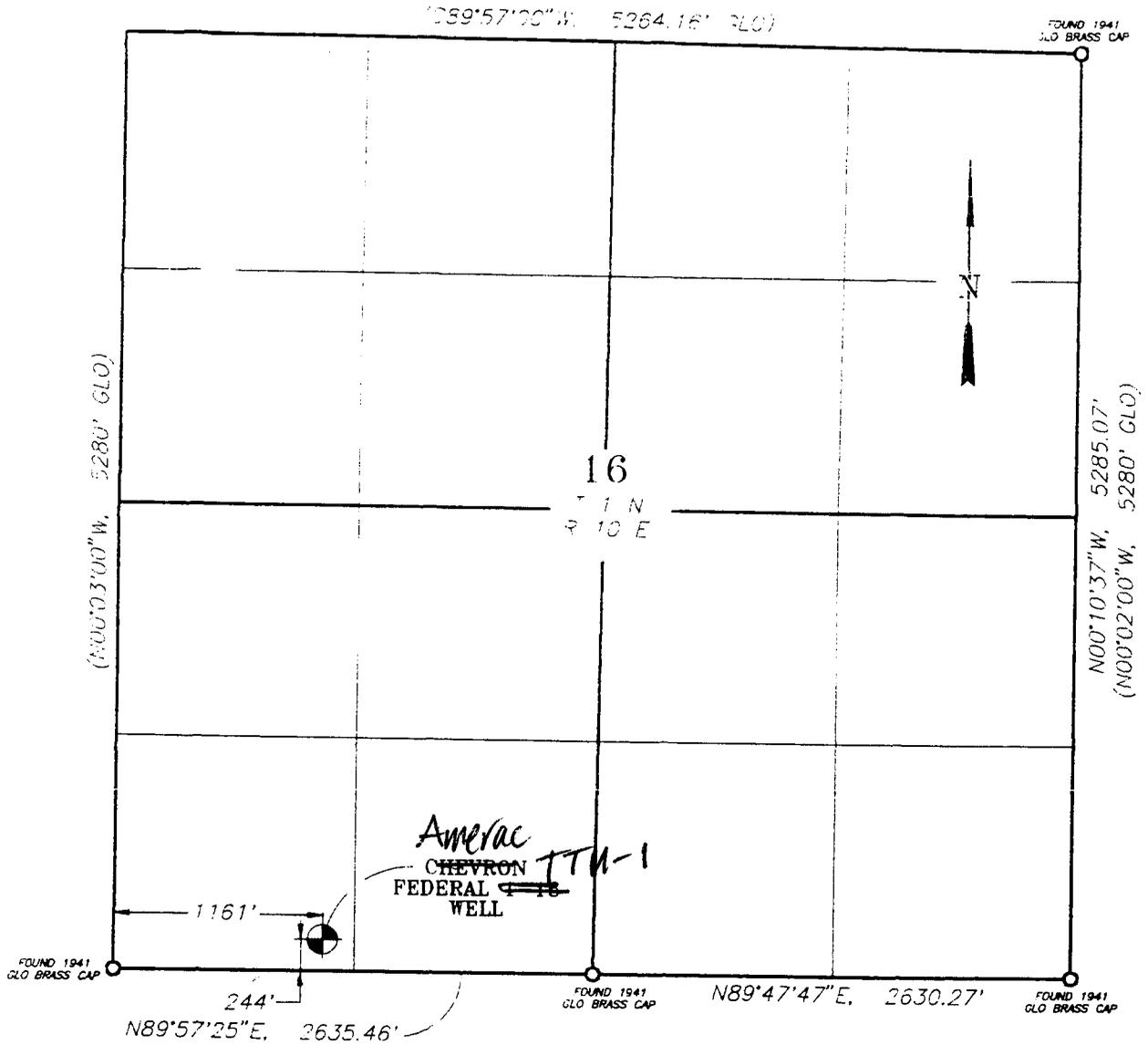
APPROVAL DATE JUL 05 1995

APPROVED BY Deane H. Zeller TITLE DISTRICT MANAGER DATE July 5, 1995  
CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY:

**CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL ATTACHED  
TO OPERATOR'S COPY**

See Instructions On Reverse Side

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

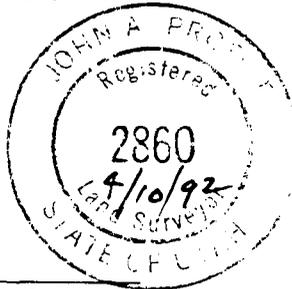


LOCATION MAP

MAP TO ACCOMPANY  
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL

*Unit*  
TTU-1 TABLE TOP CREEK PROSPECT  
CHEVRON FEDERAL 1-16  
SW 1/4 SW 1/4 SECTION 16  
T 1 N, R 10 E, S.L.B.M.  
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH

SURVEYED UNDER MY SUPERVISION IN  
JULY 1991



*John A. Proffit*  
JOHN A. PROFFIT UTAH R.L.S.#2860

CHEVRON U.S.A.  
~~P.O. BOX 6004~~  
~~EVANSTON, WYOMING 82931~~

UINTA ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.  
808 MAIN STREET  
EVANSTON, WYOMING 82930  
(307) 789-3602

DISK #: 071 FILE: TOPO  
JOB #: 91-23-05 DATE: 04-07-92

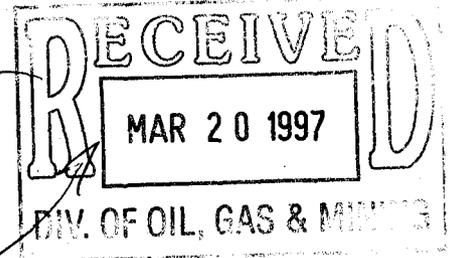
DRAWN BY: Brent Sanders



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office  
P.O. Box 45155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155



IN REPLY REFER TO  
3162.3  
(UT-931)

*Doc in  
LA DATE*

March 19, 1997

43-043-30312

Amerac Energy Corporation  
700 Louisiana, Suite 3330  
Houston, Texas 77002-2730

Re: Well No. TTU-1, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec.16, T. 1 N., R. 10 E.,  
SLB&M, Summit County, Utah, Expired Lease  
UTU-24446, Table Top Unit

Gentlemen:

Prima Oil and Gas (Prima) acting on behalf of Amerac Energy Corporation (Amerac) has filed a request, dated March 6, 1997, for a Suspension of Operations and Production (SOP) of those leases committed to the Table Top Unit. The request is based on the January 16, 1997, Forest Service decision that winter surface conditions preclude further operations. In addition, Prima requests that the unit obligations contained in Section 25 of the Table Top Agreement also be suspended.

Amerac, under their previous name (Wolverine Exploration Company), was approved as the unit operator on November 29, 1994. The Application for Permit to Drill (APD) the referenced well was approved on July 5, 1995, and the original SOP was subsequently lifted September 1, 1995. Certain surface construction activities of the access road were conducted during the fall of 1995. A Suspension of Operations was approved, effective November 11, 1995, due to the Forest Service halting operations, and was lifted on August 2, 1996. No activities were conducted during 1996. On December 17, 1996, the Forest Service determined that conditions were such that construction could no longer be conducted.

Attached is a list of leases involved with the Table Top Unit. Nine of the leases had an expiration date prior to the date Amerac filed the suspension request. Lease UTU-24446, in which the well is located, expired of its own terms on February 3, 1997.

Because Lease UTU-24446 has expired, this office is rescinding the approval of the referenced APD without prejudice. The surface disturbance associated with the approved location and access road for this well must be rehabilitated or brought to an acceptable level in accordance with the Surface Use Plan of Operation approved by the Forest Service. A schedule of this rehabilitation must be submitted to the Forest Service with a copy to this office. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Section 9 of the Unit Agreement, Drilling to Discovery, provides for a 6-month period in which the Unit operator shall commence and continue to drill the obligation well. This requirement has been interrupted several times by various suspensions granted since the inception of the unit; however, more than 6 months has elapsed in which to commence drilling operations within the Table Top Unit. No drilling operations have commenced in conformance with Section 9 of the agreement; therefore, the Table Top Unit agreement is being declared invalid *ab initio*.

The SOP request for those leases which have expired is no longer available, and for those leases still in effect cannot be considered because the Unit has terminated and Amerac no longer represents the collective interests of all the involved lessees of record.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert A. Henricks

Robert Henricks  
Chief, Branch of Fluid Minerals

cc: Double Eagle Petroleum & Mining Co.  
Attn: Steve Hollis  
P.O. Box 766  
Casper, WY 82602

Chevron U.S.A. Inc  
P.O.Box 1635  
Houston, TX 77251

Prima Oil and Gas Company  
Attn: G. Walter Lunsford  
Trinity Place  
1801 Broadway, Suite 500  
Denver, CO 80202

District Ranger  
Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
Evanston Ranger District

Utah DOGM

Regional Forest Service Office  
(Attn: Barry Burkhart)  
Ogden, Utah

bcc: Well File  
Unit File  
Fluid Chron  
U-931 (Mickey Coulthard)  
U-932 (Linda Sorenson)  
SLDO (Cheryl Martinez)

AmcKee:am:jt:3/18/97  
AMERAC.DRT

TABLE TOP UNIT LEASES - UTU-58784X

AMERAC ENERGY CORP. 67.8%

CHEVRON U.S.A. INC. 32.2%

UTU-24446	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
UTU-29455	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
UTU-29670-K	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
UTU-43117	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
UTU-54040	EXPIRED	2-03-1997

AMERAC ENERGY CORP. 50%

CHEVRON U.S.A. INC. 50%

UTU-29455-A	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
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LIBERTY PETROLEUM CORP. 100%

UTU-29670-B	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
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AMERAC ENERGY CORP. 100%

UTU-24446-A	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
UTU-41186	EXPIRES	11-20-2002

JUDY YATES 50%

AMERAC ENERGY CORP. 33.9%

CHEVRON U.S.A. INC. 16.1%

UTU-29456	EXPIRED	2-03-1997
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CHEVRON U.S.A. INC. 100%

UTU-55027	EXPIRES	2-20-2002
UTU-60725	EXPIRES	11-20-2002
UTU-60726	EXPIRES	11-20-2002
UTU-62278	EXPIRES	2-20-2002
UTU-51515	EXPIRES	12-21-1999
UTU-54044	EXPIRES	12-21-1999
UTU-56984	EXPIRES	12-21-1999

AMOCO PRODUCTION CO. 100%

UTU-64005	EXPIRES	8-22-2000
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DOUBLE EAGLE PETROLEUM & MINING COMPANY 100%

UTU-61720	EXPIRES	3-22-2000
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