OIL & GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION Meeting: October 16, 1968

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OFFICE OF

Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

STATE OF ARIZONA

ROOM 202 1824 WEST ADAMS

Phoenix, Arizona 85087

PHONE: 271-5161

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A G E N D A

Meeting October 16, 1968 Room 119, Science Bldg. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff

2:00 p.m. Call to order.

1. Approval of minutes of meeting of September 18, 1968

- 2. Old Business
- 3. New Business

2:15 p.m. Oil and Gas Possibilities of the Flagstaff area

Dr. DeForrest Smouse - Dr. Richard Rush

Question and Answer Period

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Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

STATE OF ARIZONA ROOM 202 1624 WEST ADAMS

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

PHONE: 271-5161

AGENDA

Meeting October 16, 1968 Room 119, Science Bldg. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff

Call to order - on time 2:00 p.m.

OK A. Approval of minutes of meeting of September 18, 1968

New Business

Old Business

Oil and Gas Possibilities of the Flagstaff area 2:15 p.m. Dr. DeForrest Smouse - Dr. Richard Rush Question and Answer Period

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OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
1624 West Adams - Suit 202
Phoenix, Arizona

Minutes of Meeting September 18, 1968

Present:

Mr. Lucien B. Owens, Chairman

Mr. George T. Siler, Vice Chairman

Mr. Kenneth G. Bentson, Member

Mr. Ralph W. Bilby, Member

Mr. John Bannister, Executive Secretary

Mr. J.R. Scurlock, Geologist

Mr. J.A. Lambert, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Willard Pye, University of Arizona

Mr. Alfred Morgan, Yuma, Arizona

Neeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Owens. Minutes of meeting of June 19, 1968 were approved as submitted. The Executive Secretary's report and the Geologist's report were accepted.

Mr. Bilby moved that an extension of time be given to Mr. J.M. Fraser to further develop his #1 State well. Motion passed. It was directed that the expiration date for this extension should be November 21, 1968.

Mr. Bentson moved that Mr. Bannister be authorized to travel as necessary with the Department of Valuation for fact-finding purposes. Motion passed.

During examination and discussion of the proposed 1969-70 budget, it was decided that the Commission"s programs be 60% administration, 30% enforcement, and 10% gathering and disseminating information; that provision for \$1,000 be made for development of technical geological information and dissemination to the industry to encourage further exploration. Mr. Bentson moved, Mr. Bilby seconded, that the proposed budget with the above inclusions be approved for submission to Commissioner of Finance.

Meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m. Case 33 was heard beginning at 2:00 p.m. Meeting re-convened for executive session at 4:10 p.m. for consideration and fridings in Case 33.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED October 16, 1968

Lucien B. Owens, Chairman

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OFFICE OF

Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

STATE OF ARIZONA ROOM 202 1324 WEST ADAMS

PHONE: 271-5161

October 9, 1968

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Memo to: Commissioners

From: John Bannister, Executive Secretary

Re: Report of Activity

I am pleased to report that the Harless wells are currently in the process of being plugged. Mr. Ersel Garrison, who was the owner of the federal lease on Section 4 has moved to protect his bond posted with U.S.G.S. and has a rig currently on location.

The first well to be plugged was the Harless #27. The Commission had accepted this as a water well; however, U.S.G.S. demanded that it too be plugged.

Mr. Harless has advised that he has made arrangements with Mr. Garrison to plug all wells involved in our order to him.

Pursuant to your direction, Mr. J.M. Fraser was notified of the extension until November 21, 1968 in which to fulfill the order of the Commission to plug his #1 State well, located south of Tombstone.

At last report the fabled hot water could not be brought in and Mr. Fraser is drilling ahead with the intention of testing the Mississippian. Mr. Lee Kilgore, geologist from Farmington, contacted this office. He "sat" this well for the testing of the hot water zone and has now returned to Farmington. It is his feeling this well will produce neither hot water nor oil and gas.

In subsequent talks with Mr. Fraser he assures me that our November 21 deadline will be complied with.

Mr. Jim Potter came into the office today and advised he was unable to secure the services of a well plugging rig. He left for Wickenburg in an attempt to contact a Mr. Sargent who has a suitable rig there. It is my feeling this well will not be plugged by our deadline of October 15 and that possibly Mr. Potter will seek to appear before the Commission at its meeting in Flagstaff.

I have complted my trip to Salt Lake City-Denver-Santa Fe-Roswell on behalf of Department or Property Valuation. From all appearences this trip has been successful. As I advised, the basic issue involved is the valuation of Four Corners Pipeline. There is a spread of some ten million dollars between the Department's valuation and the Pipeline Company's figures. Primarily the pipeline company estimates the the Four Corners area will have no oil to gather by the end of five years. The purpose of our trip was to determine that the Four Corners supply of oil will be in evidence considerably in excess of five years.

Contained

The case is currently scheduled for hearing on December 9. The Department has secured the services of Dr. Willard Pye, geologist, and Mr. Ewell N. Walsh, petroleum engineer, as expert witnesses for the State's case.

It is my understanding that the Navajo Indians will hold a lease sale sometime in November, whereby some 200 tracts of Arizona acreage will be offered. Small amounts of acreage will be offered in Utah and New Mexico.

Duval Corporation has taken an option from Santa Fe on some 5,200 acres in the area of Navajo Springs and Pinta Dome. The object of this search is uranium. Duval has contacted this office and advised they will be doing core drilling but will remain above 600 feet, sfart above the shallowest formation, i.e. Shinarump. In response to Duval's inquiry, I advised that we would not place this operation under permit due to its shallowness.

Our Flagstaff meeting has been arranged. The meeting will be held in Room 119 of the Science Building, Northern Arizona University. The time will be from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Please note this change of time.

I contacted Dr. Agnes Allen, Director, School of Natural Sciences, and made arrangements through her. Dr. Gus Catero, head of the geological division, will put on a program of approximately two speakers who will address the group on the potential of oil and gas in the Flagstaff area. I discussed these arrangements and got approval of our chairman, Mr. Owens, and he feels the time is suitable and may lead to increased attendance.

I would like to suggest that the next time this Commission meets outside of Phoenix that we consider setting the time of our meeting at 7:30 p.m. in an experiment to see if an evening meeting might be more attractive than a daytime meeting. Should we go this route, it would be a simple matter for people to get to the town during the day of the meeting and spend the night there.

For the stay in Flagstaff, arrangments have been made at the Americana Hotel for Mr. and Mrs. Bentson, Mr. and Mrs. Owens, and the staff. Mr. Bilby has advised that he will probably stay with his sone in Flagstaff, and of course Mr. and Mrs. Siler domicile there.

As I previously discussed with you, the Four Corners Landmen Association, Farmington, has requested I speak to their meeting on Monday October 14, 1968. Consequently it is my plan to fly into Farmington Monday morning, make that meeting, and then fly into Flagstaff on Tuesday.

New Permits:

NATIONAL PROPERTY.

- 471: Crest-Arizona Helium #1 Santa Fe, SE SE 25-20N-27E, Apache County
- 472: Crest-Arizona Helium #2 Santa Fe, C SW 25-20N-27E, Apache County
- 473: Crest-Arizona Helium #8X Santa Fe, SE NW 25-20N-27E, Apache County



OFFICE OF

Oil and Sas Conservation Commission

STATE OF ARIZONA
ROOM 202
1624 WEST ADAMS

PHONE: 271-5161

GEOLOGIST'S ACTIVITY REPORT

FROM: James Scurlock TO: Commissioners

APACHE COUNTY

Crest Oil Company Santa Fe #8 T20N, R27E, G & SRM Sec. 25: SE/4 NW/4 Apache County, Arizona Permit #134

Plugged and abandoned 9-13-68. This is the well that was completed in the Coconino Sandstone. This was originally a Coconino producer. Arizona Helium Corporation tied it into their plant. The well immediately went bad because of water encroachment. Crest may have tried to produce this well so fast that it caused the water to cone around the well and drown the well.

Apache #1 Santa Fe-Crest T20N, R27E, G & SRM Sec. 25: SE/4 NW/4 Apache County, Arizona Permit #353

Located in the same quarter section as the Crest #8 above. Plugged and abandoned at a total depth of 1306 feet. This well was drilled as a Shinarump prospect. The Shinarump was fracked with 60 tons of dry ice. Well never produced any helium.

Crest-Arizona Helium #1 Santa Fe T20N, R27E, G & SRM Sec. 25: SE/4 SE/4 Apache County, Arizona Permit #471

Drilling at 1225 feet. Well is running about one hundred feet high structurally so far. Hopefully expect to hit the Coconino in another ten feet. Disappointed here

Page 2 Activity Report

that there was no Shinarump section. Perhaps Shinarump was faulted out. Had trouble on this hole for a few days. Stuck the drill pipe. Fish now recovered. Prepared to resume drilling.

Crest-Arizona Helium #2 Santa Fe
T20N, R27E, G & SRM
Sec: C SW/4
Apache County, Arizona
Permit #472
Locations prepared. Pits dug and so forth.

Crest-Arizona Helium #8X Santa Fe T20N, R27E, G & SRM Sec: SE/4 NW/4 Apache County, Arizona Permit #473 Locations prepared. Pits dug and so forth.

COCONINO COUNTY

Eastern Petrol #1 Fed Moqui Bardo T14N, R11E, G & SRM Sec. NW/4 SW/4 Coconino County, Arizona Permit #464

They have drilled ten inch hole to 1453 feet. Doing well with this cable tool rig. (Contractor, Malcolm Kitchens--Farmington.) Making 70 to 80 feet per day. Crew staying on location. Running two twelve hour towers. Have set 7 5/8 inch casing with a hundred sacks at 1453 feet. Crew is presently taking a breather for a few days. Will be back on location probably 10-7-68. This is turning out to be cheap drilling for this country where lost circulation has proved to be a formidable obstacle in the past. Expect Fort Apache at approximately 1650 feet. Elevation - 6906 DF. Well is supported by Sun Oil Company. Location was picked by Bob Lauth, Durango geologist who mapped the structure. Formation tops: spudded in Kaibab, Coconino 370 feet, Supai 1083 feet. The Fort Apache formation is the first objective horizon. The other two objectives being the Mississippian and Devonian Limestones.

'Page 3 Activity Report

COCHISE COUNTY

Fraser State #1
T21S, R23E, G & SRM
Sec. 19: NE/4 SE/4
Cochise County, Arizona
Permit #93

Geologist, Lee Kilgore, Farmington, has quit the well. Rig is being removed from location after trying unsuccessfully to swab hot water. This well was reported to be capable of producing hot water at 250 degrees, and it was hoped that it could be put to industrial use. Kilgore had run a log on the well in 1960 and was familiar with the setup. Reports his attempts to swab any kind of fluid into the hole were unsuccessful. Formation here is simply too tight. Kilgore saw no hot water at all. Kilgore thinks that Fraser has fabricated this story in an attempt to pursuade his backers to drill deeper where he is convinced (apparently as a result of a geologic report on this area written by Loren Buck of Tucson) the Mississippian formation would be oil producing.

ARIZONA HELIUM CORPORATION - NEW PLANT

Presently testing plant on Shinarump gas from Eastern Ancon #21 Santa Fe Fee (Sec. 31-T20N-R28E). This is reported to be a marginal to fair producer. Company hopes that it will produce about 100,000 cubic feet of gas per day.

Have laid pipe (but have not tied in) to Eastern #35 Santa Fe (NE SW Sec. 27-T20N-R27E) in the Navajo Springs Unit. Waiting on gas meters. Will be tied into this well in a few days.

Plant currently designed for approximately 500 MCF of natural gas per day. This amount will be required to produce 1,000,000 cubic feet of refined Grade A Helium per month. The company is going to be hard put to find enough gas for their plant. They were counting heavily on the Crest #8 well which has now been plugged. They now appear to be in a desperate situation in view of the fact that their main source of helium supply consists of their contractual right (through Crest) to 16% of the Navajo Springs Unit production.

Page 4 Activity Report

SCUTTLEBUTT:

Penzoil is rumored to be planning Pre Cambrian test in Coconino County (Sec. 11: T29N-R24E). Contractor, Cactus Drilling. This wildcat would be two miles SW of Moore, Moore, and Miller #1 Hopi, which was drilled to Pre Cambrian at a TD of 6998 feet.

Buttes #1-23 Navajo (Sec. 23: T37N-R27E, NE NE) Footage: 820 FNL - 700 FEL. 4000 foot Devonian test. This well located on the northern flank of the Defiance Uplift which the industry must consider one of the most favorable prospecting areas in Arizona. It offers stratagraphic pinchout possibility in both Pennsylvanian and Pre Pennsylvanian formations. This still in the rumor stage.

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OFFICE OF

Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

STATE OF ARIZONA ROOM 202 1824 WEST ADAMS

Phornix, Arizona 85007

PHONE: 271-5161

October 10, 1968

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, State of Arizona, will hold its regular monthly meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona on October 16, 1968 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 119 of the Science Building, Northern Arizona University. The public is invited to attend.

Dr. DeForrest Smouse, formerly employed by El Paso Natural Gas Company, and Dr. Richard Rush, formerly employed by Creole Petroleum Company, both presently on the staff of Northern Arizona University, will discuss the oil and gas potential of the Flagstaff area and will conduct a question and answer session. There will be a short business meeting of the Commission prior to their presentation.

Mr. John Bannister, Executive Secretary of the Commission, will be available at the Americana Hotel, Flagstaff, on Tuesday October 15, 1968 for interview concerning this meeting or any discussion pertaining to oil and gas in Arizona.

The commissioners who will be in attendance are:

Mr. Lucien B. Owens, Holbrook, Chairman

Mr. George T. Siler, Flagstaff, Vice Chairman

Mr. Kenneth G. Bentson, Phoenix, Member

Mr. Ralph W. Bilby, Tucson, Member