

COLORADO OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Room 721, State Centennial Building
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, Colorado 80203



March 7, 1977
MEMO

TO: Doug V. Rogers

FROM: Carroll G. McDowell

SUBJECT: Office Evaluation of Retaining Pits



On March 2, 1977, an office evaluation was made of the retaining pits in the Red Mesa Field, La Plata County.

Pyramid Oil Co. - Dudley, SWSWNW 23-33N-12W,
" " - Turner, NWNWNW 26-33N-12W,
" " - Kroeger - Ferguson - 1, NENESW 27-33N-12W,
" " - " " - 2, NWNWSE 27-33N-12W,
" " - Harris, SWNESE 28-33N-12W,
" " - Taylor-1, NENESW 28-33N-12W,
" " - Taylor-3, NENESW 28-33N-12W.

The wells produce gas from the Mesaverde formation with a reported total dissolved solids (TDS) ranging from 12,377-25,049 ppm. Each lease has one retaining pit, with a reported inflow of 0-137 barrels of produced water per day. However, the Oil & Gas Commission records indicate the wells are producing no water. There are some water wells in the area, and the distances to the nearest creeks range from less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. The town of Red Mesa lies 2 to 3 miles northwest. About 50'-100' of alluvium is deposited on the surface, underlain by the Lewis shale formation.

Recommend all uncovered pits be kept free of possible oil accumulation, or covered should this occur. Should the wells start producing substantial quantities of water, all pits should be sealed or lined or the water injected.