

OGLE PETROLEUM INC.

PDR 40-8745

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September 22, 1980

PLEASE DIRECT REPLY TO:

150 North Nichols Avenue
Casper, Wyoming 82601
(307) 266-6456

Mr. H. J. Miller, P.E.
Section Leader
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: Commercial Source Material
License Application, Docket
No. 40-8745

SUBJECT: Response to Your Letter
Dated September 8, 1980

Dear Mr. Miller:

Ogle Petroleum Inc. (OPI) herewith responds to those items in the subject letter that asked for immediate responses. Specifically, the response to item number 8 of the subject letter follows:

COMMENT NO. 8:

"Please submit a map showing all of the exploration holes that were drilled and those that were plugged, and show which wells were plugged with only bentonite or with bentonite and cement. What was the ratio of bentonite to water? Is the slurry sufficient to prevent vertical excursions? Explain how and indicate all of the wells drilled below the ore zone into the sand stringers or below. Please submit this information to the NRC by September 22, 1980."

RESPONSE:

Enclosed please find the requested map showing the location of drill holes in Mining Unit No. 1. Only a map for Mining Unit No. 1 is being submitted at this time based on our telephone conversation discussing this matter. In order to correspond with the State requirement for the same information, it is requested that a similar exploration drill hole location map for Mining Unit Nos. 2, 3, and 4 be submitted with the first Annual Report.

According to the information available to OPI, all exploration drill holes in the Bison Basin Project area were plugged by leaving a column of bentonitic drilling fluid in the hole and placing a cap

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Mr. H. J. Miller, P.E.
September 22, 1980
PAGE TWO

over the hole at the surface. None of the exploration drill holes were plugged with cement, or cement and bentonite. OPI firmly believes that the above-described abandonment procedure will prevent vertical excursion. Referring to the enclosed map, there are five abandoned drill holes in the one-acre R & D area; and no vertical excursions have been experienced during either the previous 25 gpm or the present 100 gpm operations.

The enclosed map indicates which exploration holes were drilled into the sand stringers or below the production zone. The exploration holes drilled below the production zone were drilled and abandoned in the same manner as all exploration holes drilled in the Bison Basin Project area.


The average ratio of bentonite (product used was a high-yield additive) to the drilling fluid averages 125 pounds to 2,800 gallons of circulating and/or makeup drilling fluid or one pound per 22.4 gallons. In addition, natural solids buildup from formations penetrated by the drill and retained in the circulating drilling fluid increase the drilling fluid density.

In regards to item number 2 of the subject letter, OPI has a different understanding of the scope of the pump test based upon discussions between Ms. Terry VanDell and myself. It is my understanding that the deep monitor wells (M 19 and M 20) were to each be pumped for a minimum of eight hours at a constant rate, if possible; and the water levels were to be monitored in the pumped well, in a well completed in the production zone, and in a well completed in the upper aquifer. The drawdown data and pumping data were to be submitted to the NRC. A detailed evaluation of the data using the methods outlined in item number 2 was not called for as OPI understands the verbal agreement.

In regards to item number 6 of the subject letter, the required data were forwarded to the NRC in a letter addressed to Mr. J. E. Rothfleisch dated September 15, 1980.

Sincerely,

OGLE PETROLEUM INC.


Glenn J. Catchpole
Project Manager

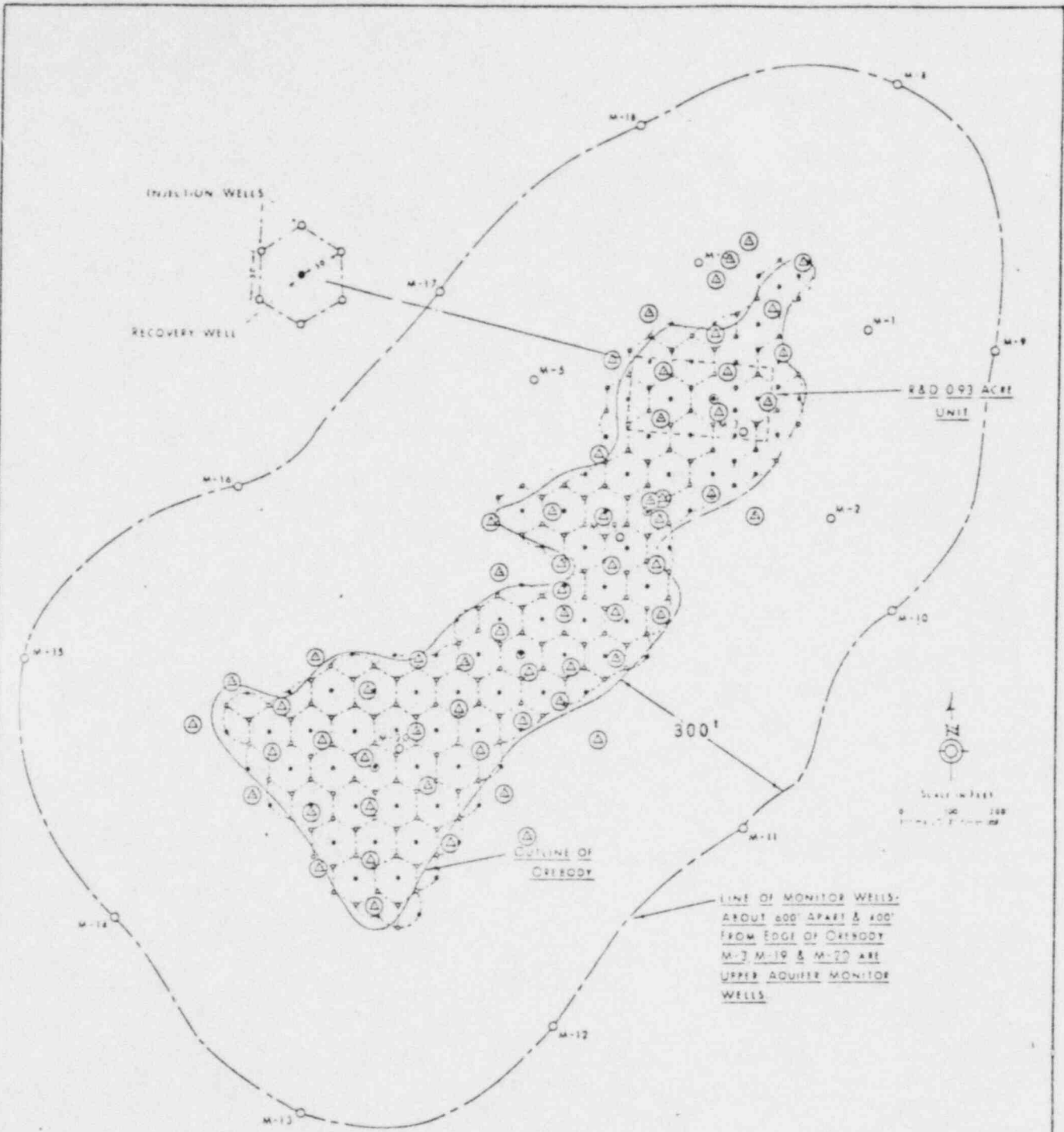
GJC:jm

Enclosures

CC: Dr. Minton Kelly, ORNL, w/Enclosures
Document Management Branch w/Enclosures

OGLE PETROLEUM INC.

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NOTES:

1. For Location Of This Mining Unit See Index Map
2. The Number Of Wells Shown:
 - Injection Wells 169
 - Recovery Wells 90
 - Total Used in Mining 259
 - M Monitor Wells 18
 - Total Wells 277
3. ● Restoration Sampling Wells [2 Wells]
4. The Area Of Mining Unit No. 1 Orebody is 504,322 Square Feet [11.7 Acres]
5. △ Exploration Holes drilled to 5 feet or less below Base Ore Sandstone
6. ⊙ Exploration Holes drilled over 5 feet below Base Ore Sandstone

OGLE PETROLEUM INC.
 BISON BASIN PROJECT
 BISON BASIN MINE
 MINING UNIT NO. 1

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