

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY

EXPLORATION DEPARTMENT
EAST TEXAS DIVISION
POST OFFICE BOX 2025
TYLER, TEXAS

March 1, 1951

Dr. H. B. Stenzel
Bureau of Economic Geology
University Station, Box B
Austin 12, Texas

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

I received your letter and the manuscript on "Buried Hill at the Wilcox-Carrizo Contact in East Texas". I have enjoyed reading it and am glad it is to be published. Thank you a lot for letting me see it.

As to acknowledging my help in reporting the Athens clay pit exposure, that isn't necessary since it wasn't my idea that it was a buried hill. You should take credit yourself for that discovery. I think that the area I had in mind as a "topographic high" in the Wilcox eroded surface was several miles southwest of Athens and was reported by Robert Eaton of this office. There will be no embarrassment to me, however, one way or the other.

I am now wondering if I told you that the white clay deposit (usually 2 to 10 feet thick) at the top of the Wilcox is apparently widespread in the Tyler Basin. This is one of the outstanding criteria I use in establishing the Carrizo-Wilcox contact in shallow core-drilling in the central and north part of the Tyler area.

On penetrating this section, the drilling fluid turns milky and the cuttings show a bluish almost paper-white soft clay which is sometimes quite silty, though this is not usually the case. As you would expect, this deposit is not present in all holes, but there is at least some evidence of its presence in the majority of those I have seen drilled.

I am enclosing your manuscript with this letter.

Yours truly with best wishes,


S. O. Burford

SOB/njm

Enclosure