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Accurate Directional Borehole Drilling: A Case Study at Navajo Dam, New Mexico

By S. J. Kravits, A. Sainato, and G. L. Finfinger



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	UNIT OF MEASURE ABBREV	IATIONS USED	IN THIS REPORT
EMU	electromagnetic unit	lbf	pound force
ft	foot	min	minute
ft•1bf	foot pound (force)	nT	nanotesla
gal/min	gallon per minute	psi	pound per square inch
hp	horsepower	psig	pound per square inch, gauge
in	inch	r/min	revolution per minute
in/min	inch per minute	V ac	volt, alternating current

ACCURATE DIRECTIONAL BOREHOLE DRILLING: A CASE STUDY AT NAVAJO DAM, NEW MEXICO

By S. J. Kravits, A. Sainato, and G. L. Finfinger

ABSTRACT

This report describes a project conducted by the Bureau of Mines in which the accurate directional drilling of a borehole was demonstrated with the objective of intercepting a designated target. The project was conducted at Navajo Dam in northern New Mexico at the request of the Bureau of Reclamation. Borehole survey and drill logs are provided in an appendix.

The trajectory of the demonstration borehole was designed to intercept a 5-ft-radius target at the final or "punchout" distance of 885 ft. The elevation of the borehole at this distance was within the target; the borehole punchout coordinates were 8.81 ft southwest of the target. As a result of the demonstrated accuracy, the Bureau of Reclamation has contracted the accurate drilling of boreholes as long as 600 ft from the inside of a short tunnel, to control water seepage in the right abutment. This resulted in a substantial cost savings compared to the original plan of constructing a longer tunnel and drilling 150-ft boreholes.

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INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior, requested the Bureau of Mines, through Interagency Agreement No. 1409-0070-1212, to demonstrate accuracy of directional drilling a near-horizontal borehole to intercept a designated target. The Bureau of Reclamation's objective was to determine using accurately the feasibility οf drilled boreholes to control water seepage through open joints in bedrock foundations of embankment dams.

The Bureau of Mines has researched and demonstrated accurate directional drilling as part of its methane control program (1-3). In 1979, a directional surface borehole was drilled using an in-hole motor⁵ to a measured depth of

1,595 ft, maintaining an arc of 6° per 100 ft and coming within 3 ft of intercepting the Pittsburgh Coalbed 1,012 ft below the surface. Five horizontal methane drainage boreholes were then drilled from the surface borehole, totaling 9,544 ft.

The Bureau has also demonstrated drilling accuracy in drilling long horizontal methane drainage boreholes in underground coal mines. Methane drainage boreholes have been drilled to depths greater than 2,000 ft, maintaining vertical borehole trajectory within the coalbed (approximately 6 ft) while controlling horizontal trajectory as desired to prevent interception by future mining (2-3).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The cooperation of the Bureau of Reclamation was critical in the successful completion of this project. The authors wish to thank Hunter C. Harrel, geologist, Engineering and Research Center, Denver, CO; William C. Ehler, geologist, Durango (CO) Projects Office; Leonard Trujillo, Navajo Dam superintendent; and

Navajo Dam maintenance staff for their continued support and assistance during this project. The authors also thank Ed J. Blythe, Jr., well planning engineer, NL Sperry-Sun, Rosenburg, TX for technical assistance provided in improving surveying accuracy.

constructed from 1958 to 1963, is approx-

3,600 ft in crest length, 30 ft in top

width, and 2,500 ft in maximum base width

(4). The right abutment of the dam was

chosen for the loaction of the demonstra-

tion borehole, with designed punchout

occurring near the top of the spillway

in structural height,

TEST SITE

imately 400 ft

(figs. 2-3).

Navajo Dam is a zoned embankment structure in northern New Mexico, 39 miles east of Farmington, NM, and about 35 miles southeast of Durango, CO (fig. 1). It is one of the key structures of the Colorado River Storage Project, regulating the flows of the San Juan River and providing storage for Navajo Indian Irrigation Project. It also provides a facility for recreation and fish and wildlife conservation. Navajo Dam,

5The term in-hole is synonymous with downhole. The authors feel in-hole is more descriptively accurate when borehole trajectory is near horizontal.

⁴Underlined numbers in parentheses refer to items in the list of references preceding the appendix.

DRILLING EQUIPMENT

A Diamant Boart⁶ DBH 700 hydraulic core drill and a 2-7/8-in-OD high-torque, non-magnetic in-hole motor manufactured by Slimdril, Inc., were used to drill the borehole. The in-hole motor was equipped with a bent housing and two 3-1/2-in-OD polycrystalline diamond cutter bits (used separately), one manufactured by Longyear and one by Slimdril, Inc.

6Reference to specific equipment does not imply endorsement by the Bureau of Mines.

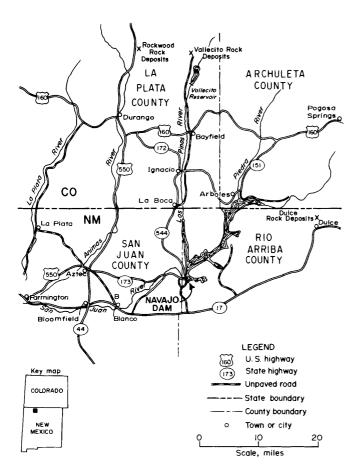


FIGURE 1.—Navajo Dam location map. Adapted from Bureau of Reclamation map.

HYDRAULIC DRILL

The main components of the Diamant Boart DBH 700 unit are the drill itself, control panel, and power unit (fig. 4). To drill the demonstration borehole, the drill was positioned horizontally. The power unit is equipped with two hydraulic radial piston pumps, one for thrust and one for rotation, both powered by a single 40-hp, 440-V ac electric motor.

IN-HOLE MOTOR

The 2-7/8-in-OD high-torque in-hole motor is a positive-displacement hydraulic motor that rotates the drill bit without rotating the drill string. The in-hole motor converts the hydraulic horsepower generated by the flow of the drilling fluid (water) under pressure into torque and into the rotational speed or mechanical power that drives the drill bit (5). The components of the high-torque motor are identified in figure 5.

When drilling fluid is pumped through the drill string and the in-hole motor at rates of 30 to 70 gal/min at differential pressures of 250 to 625 psig, the helical stainless steel rotor rotates inside the rubber molded stator. The range of Slimdril operating parameters is shown in figure 6; the actual parameters applied are listed in table A-1 (appendix). Rotation of the drive shaft, positioned within the bearing package, is transmitted by the flex-coupling, converting the eccentric rotary motion of the helical rotor to concentric motion. drive sub is connected to the drive shaft and is the only rotating external component of the in-hole motor. The drill bit is fastened to the drive sub. Two 3-1/2in-OD polycrystalline diamond cutter bits, one each from Longyear and Slimdril, Inc., were equally used to drill

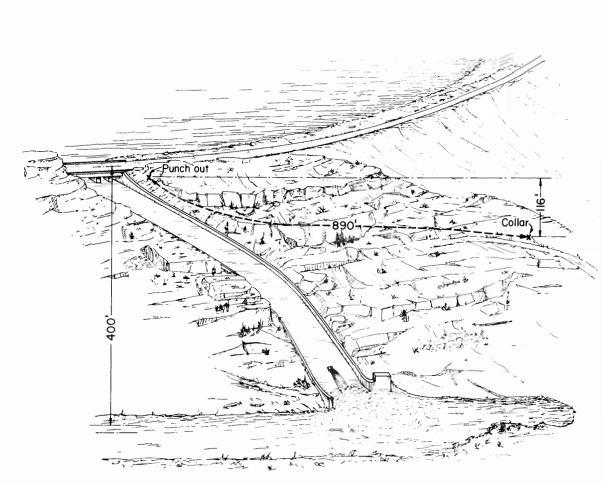


FIGURE 2.—Navajo Dam right abutment.



FIGURE 3.—Navajo Dam demonstration borehole drill site.

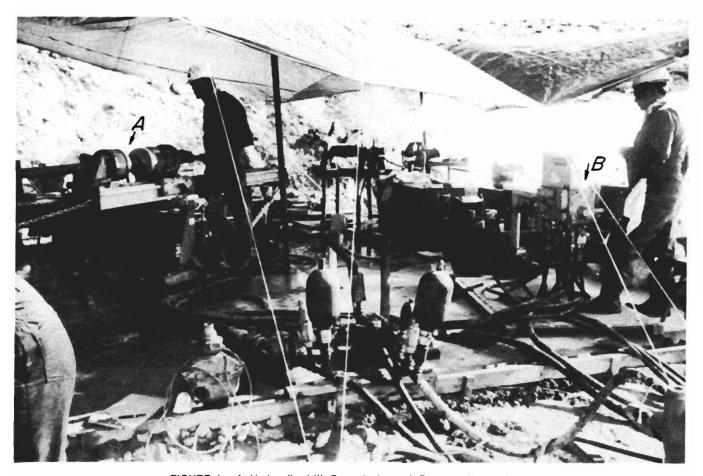


FIGURE 4.—A, Hydraulic drill; B, control panel. Power unit not shown.

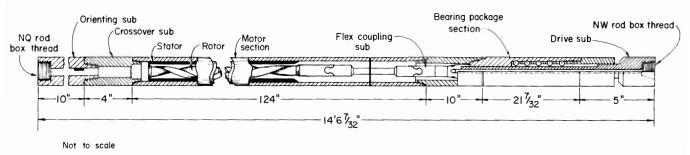


FIGURE 5.—In-hole motor schematic. Stator, rotor and exterior housing are nonmagnetic. Bearing package and drive sub are magnetic.

the demonstration borehole (fig. 7). Polycrystalline diamond cutter bits are recommended for use with in-hole motors because they are designed to operate at high rotating speeds for extended periods. The demonstration borehole's horizontal and vertical borehole trajectories were controlled during in-hole motor drilling by using control devices.

BOREHOLE TRAJECTORY CONTROL DEVICES

Various types of devices can be used with in-hole motors to control borehole trajectory. These include bent housings, bent subs, eccentric subs, and deflection shoes. An in-hole motor equipped with a 2° bent housing is shown in figure 8.

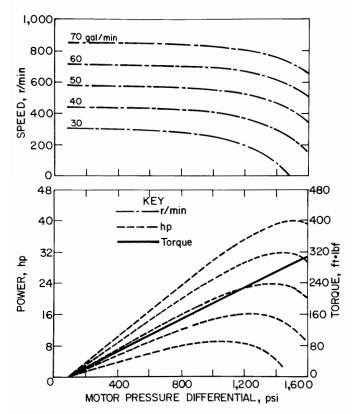


FIGURE 6.—In-hole motor operating parameters. Water supplied to in-hole motor under pressure by two triple-piston pumps.

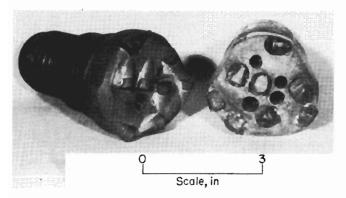


FIGURE 7.—Polycrystalline diamond cutter bits.

While drilling, there is continuous contact between the convex side of the bent housing and the wall of the borehole; this is commonly called side force. The resultant reaction of the side force exerted on the wall of the borehole is a force exerted on the bit in the opposite direction or 180° away (fig. 9). The direction of the force exerted on the bit

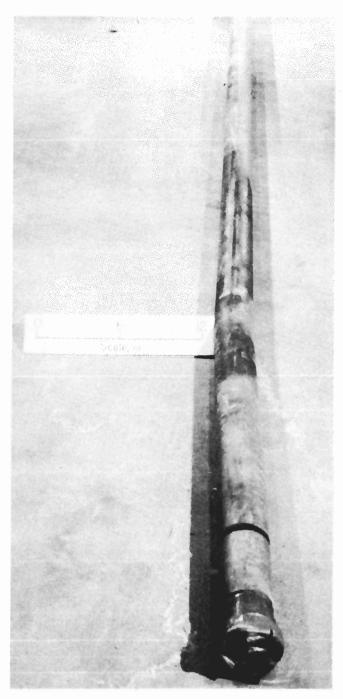
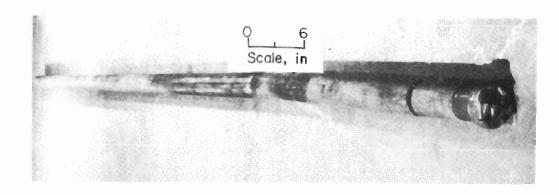
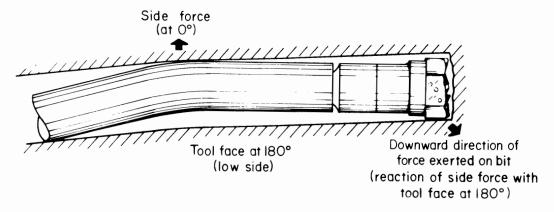


FIGURE 8.—In-hole motor equipped with a 2° bent housing.

is called tool face direction and is the direction borehole trajectory will follow. Various tool face settings and their effects on borehole vertical and horizontal trajectories are shown in figure 10.





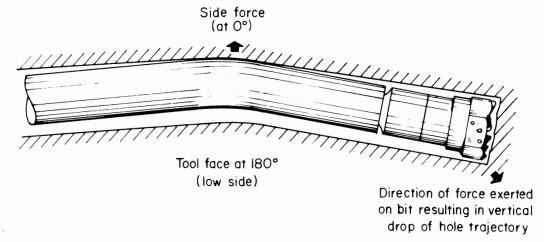


FIGURE 9.—Side force diagram. Above in-hole motor equipped with bent housing; below, side force schematic.

Deflection rates pertaining to known tool face settings are rates at which borehole inclination and azimuth (bearing) change or deflect during drilling. The rate of change in borehole inclination is the vertical deflection rate; the horizontal deflection rate is the rate of change in azimuth. Established

deflection rates would be used to periodically project or estimate bit position 16 ft ahead of the current survey depth and to decide what tool face setting should be applied to the next drilling interval in order to maintain desired borehole trajectory. Vertical and horizontal deflection rates are determined by

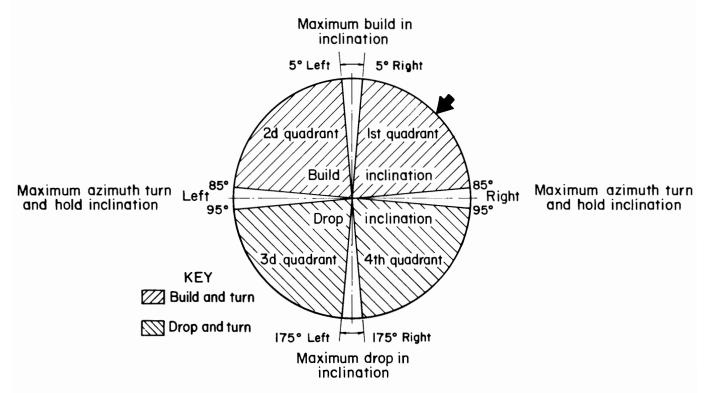


FIGURE 10.—Various tool face settings and their effects on borehole trajectory. Black arrow depicts tool face setting of 45° right, which would result in borehole trajectory building inclination and azimuth turning right (east).

observing the change in inclination and azimuth from the previous to the current borehole survey depth. For example, referring to the third page of table A-2, the vertical and horizontal deflection rates observed from survey depths 449 to 459 ft were 0.09°/ft (0.9° during 10-ft interval) and 0.19°/ft (east is positive), respectively. A tool face setting of 60° to 80° right was applied using a 2° bent housing while drilling from 445 to 475 ft. When the survey was conducted at 459 ft, the bit depth was 475 ft. project the inclination at the bit depth of 475 ft, the established vertical deflection rate of 0.09°/ft was multiplied by 16 ft and added to the surveyed inclination at 459 ft. This resulted in a projected inclination of 101.8°. azimuth at the bit depth was projected to be 343.0° by multiplying the horizontal deflection rate of 0.19°/ft by 16 ft and adding the azimuth surveyed at 459 ft of 340.0° . The projected inclination and azimuth at 475 ft were close to the actual results surveyed later at 479 ft (table A-2). Angle averaging, which is a surveying calculation method, was used to calculate projected coordinates and elevation at the bit (2, 6). Established deflection rates pertaining to tool face settings and bent housing used are provided later in the text.

Tool face directions are changed by turning the drill string clockwise with pipe wrenches to a position 0° to 180° left or right from the centerline along the top of the boring. Borehole inclination, azimuth, and tool face direction were continuously monitored and adjusted to achieve directional control or to maintain the desired horizontal and vertical borehole trajectories.

SURVEYING EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES

SINGLE-SHOT SURVEY INSTRUMENT

An NL Sperry-Sun type B 120° magnetic directional single-shot survey instrument was used during drilling to monitor borehole inclination, bearing, and tool face direction (fig. 11). The essential elements of the survey instrument are the compass, inclination unit, and film loading mechanism, lens and lamp holder, and mechanical timer that controls the electrical circuits and illuminates the compass-inclination unit at a preset time to record the pertinent data on a film disk (7).

conduct a survey, the mechanical timer of the survey instrument is set and the instrument is loaded with a film The loaded survey instrument is disk. placed in its protective casing and inserted in the hollow drill rod. It is pumped with water to the back end of the in-hole motor, where it aligns with the orienting sub. The film disk is exposed at a preset time, after which the instrument is retrieved by a wireline attached to the protective casing. The retrieved instrument is removed from its protective casing, and the film disk is removed, developed, and read (fig. 12).

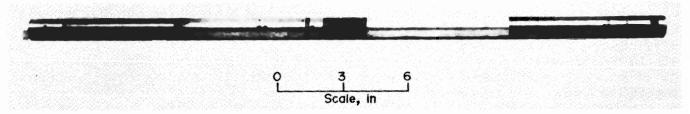


FIGURE 11.—Single-shot directional survey instrument.

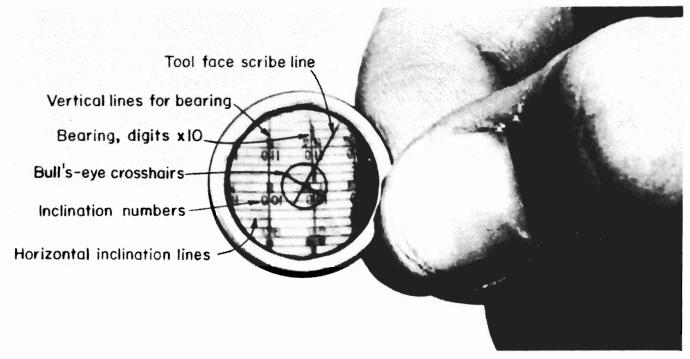


FIGURE 12.—Reading developed survey film disk.

SURVEYING ACCURACY

Directional drilling accuracy is primarily dependent on borehole surveying accuracy. Factors that influence borehole accuracy include inherent accuracy of the survey instrument, magnetic drill string interference, survey frequency or interval, and the calculation technique used to compute borehole coordinates and elevation.

The NL Sperry-Sun type B 120° directional single-shot survey instrument was used to monitor borehole inclination, bearing, and tool face orientation. specified tolerance in manufacturer's measuring bearing for a recently calibrated compass (survey instrument) is ±0.5°. Furthermore, the resolution in reading the photographed compass bearing on the film disk is a random $\pm 0.5^{\circ}$. Consequently, a potential error of $\pm 1^{\circ}$ exists in measuring borehole bearings using the subject survey instrument. The accuracy in surveying for inclination using the subject survey instrument is $\pm 0.12^{\circ}$. Wolff and deWardt (8) state that, for a compass unit in good condition, a generally accepted systematic accuray is $\pm 1^{\circ}$. Compass units measure magnetic north and require a declination correction to obtain true north. Wolff and deWardt suggest that declination corrections obtained from charts may be incorrect to ±0.5. The National Geophysical Data Center, Boulder, CO, or the U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, VA, can supply an accurate declination correction if provided with drill site (collar) coordinates and elevation. The declination correction at Navajo Dam drill site was 12° E ±13 min. Random misalignment of the survey hardware and instrument within the drill

string with respect to the borehole is another possible source of error in borehole surveying for bearing and inclination (fig. 13). The magnitude of this source of error is difficult to determine; Wolff and deWardt (8) estimate it at approximately ± 0.2 to $\pm 0.5^{\circ}$.

surveying instruments Compass-type sense only the direction of the local magnetic field vector and therefore are subject to systematic drill string interference. To reduce drill string interference, compass-type survey instruments must be properly spaced inside adequate lengths of nonmagnetic drill collar The NMDC used to drill the dem-(NMDC). onstration borehole consisted of a nonmagnetic in-hole motor (nonmagnetic rotor and housing 12 ft in length, bearing package and bit made of magnetic material 2 ft in length) and 100 ft of NQ-size nonmagnetic stainless steel wireline Previous Bureau experience drill rod. in directional drilling long horizontal boreholes in coal for methane drainage has shown that compass spacing of 20 ft above the bottom end of 100 ft of NMDC sufficiently reduces drill string interference. NL Sperry-Sun has completed selection charts as guides for estimating compass spacing based on geographical location (horizontal component of the earth's magnetic field intensity varies with location), borehole inclination, and bearing, as indicated in figure 14 (9). Based on the selection chart shown for the Navajo Dam location, uncorrected bearing of N 10° W, and inclination of 90°, the compass should be located 20 ft from the bottom of the NMDC. While conducting a borehole survey, the NL Sperry-Sun single-shot was placed 13 ft from the bottom of the NMDC, or 16 ft from the

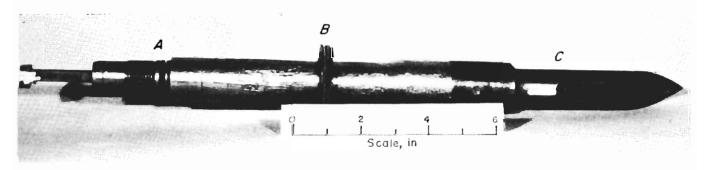


FIGURE 13.—Survey hardware. A, snubber; B, centralizing pumpdown washers; C, muleshoe.

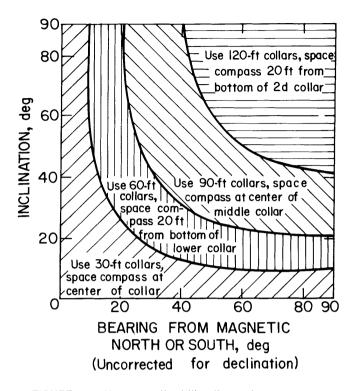


FIGURE 14.—Nonmagnetic drill collar and compass spacing selection chart.

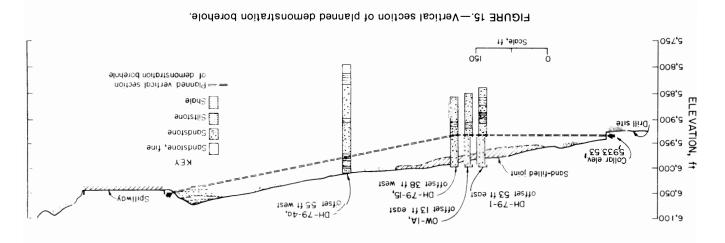
bit. Although this spacing was 7 ft less than the estimated compass spacings, having the compass closer to the bit enhanced the accuray in projecting the current position of the bit from the survey position.

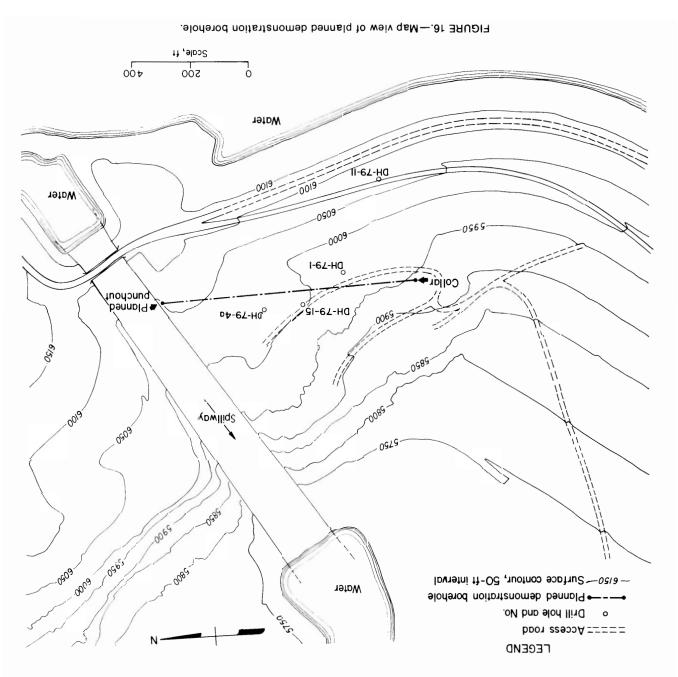
Two related factors that affect borehole surveying accuracy are surveying frequency and the surveying calculation technique used to determine borehole coordinates and elevation. It is generally accepted that regardless of calculation technique applied, short survey intervals will result in increased accuracy (10). Borehole surveys were conducted at 10-ft drilling intervals at Navajo Dam. Of the dozen or so surveying calculation techniques available, balanced tangential, radius of curvature, minimum curvature, and angle averaging are generally accepted as providing similar and acceptable results (10). A radius of curvature program adapted for a Hewlett Packard 15C calculator was used to calculate borehole coordinates and elevation. Angle averaging was used periodically to check the radius of curvature results.

PLANNING THE BOREHOLE

The borehole starting coordinates were N 19,567.69, E 52,697.69; elevation at the collar was 5,933.53 ft. The designated "punchout" was to occur within a 5-ft radius of N 20,447.31, E 52,709.41 at an elevation of 6,049.03 ft (figs. 15-16). The location of the borehole was determined after considering the geology of the right abutment and the constraints that specific geologic features would impose on the placement of the borehole. The abutment in the vicinity of the borehole consists predominantly of coarse-tomedium-grained sandstone with interbedded shale and siltstone (fig. 15). The sandstone is comprised mostly of very hard angular quartz grains weakly to moderately cemented having an unconfined compressive strength of less than 6,900 psi (4). The weak nature of the sandstone's intergranular material indicated that the rock would probably drill easily even though the sandstone's quartz grains were very hard and abrasive. Rock outcrops within the right abutment contain both vertical

and horizontal joints. Unfortunately, the exact locations of the joints could determined because of thin soil and thus the borehole trajectory cover. could not be planned to avoid intercepting them. However, the borehole was designed to avoid intercepting the sandfilled joint shown in figure 15. elevation at the bottom of the sandestimated to be 5,950 filled joint was ft, or about 16.5 ft above the collar of the borehole. To prevent drilling into the joint, the first 250 ft of the demonstration borehole was to be drilled keeping borehole elevation near the elevation of the collar, or 5,933 ft. Drilling was to continue from 250 to 340 ft, by applying maximum build and tool face directions of 0° to 20° right and left (fig. 10). A desired increase in borehole inclination from 90.0° (horizontal inclination) to 101.0° (11.0° above horizontal) would result at 300 to 340 ft. inclination was then to be maintained at or near 101.0° to borehole completion in





order to intercept the target elevation. While maintaining desired vertical trajectory as mentioned, an attempt was to be made to maintain departure within 2 ft east or west from the planned straight-line collar to punchout trajectory (fig. 16). The departure of the

straight-line collar to punchout trajectory having a bearing of N 0°-45'-00" E was calculated and appears in appendix table A-2. This information would be used continuously during drilling to monitor deviation from the desired borehole departure.

DIRECTIONAL DRILLING THE DEMONSTRATION BOREHOLE

Several bent housings were used to drill the demonstration borehole; the 2° bent housing was the most effective in controlling vertical and horizontal trajectories (fig. 8). Before discussing the effectiveness of the bent housings, the drilling of the borehole's vertical and horizontal trajectories is briefly described.

The first 250 ft of the borehole were drilled maintaining elevation near the collar elevation as planned (fig. 17). Drilling continued to a depth of 495 ft without developing the necessary increase in vertical borehole trajectory. Consequently, the borehole was abandoned in order to start a new borehole within the initial borehole at a depth of 289 ft. After the new borehole was started at 289 ft, drilling continued to borehole completion at 885 ft, maintaining desired vertical trajectory.

Horizontal borehole trajectory during the first 250 ft of the borehole was maintained to within 2.5 ft of the desired departure. (Table A-2 gives the actual borehole survey log and desired borehole departures.) As drilling continued from 250 ft to 495 ft, horizontal borehole trajectory deviated from the desired course. After the new borehole was started at 289 ft, horizontal trajectory of the new borehole was maintained close to the desired course to borehole completion, according to borehole surveys (fig. 18).

EFFECTIVENESS IN CONTROLLING BOREHOLE TRAJECTORY

The 1/2° bent housing with pad was used to drill the initial borehole to a depth of 455 ft (fig. 19). Although the desired vertical and horizontal borehole

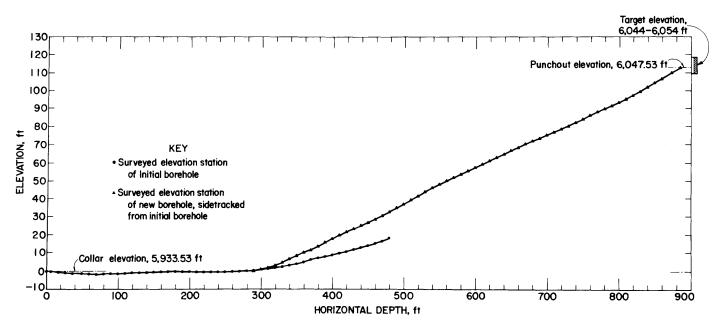


FIGURE 17.—Vertical section of demonstration borehole.

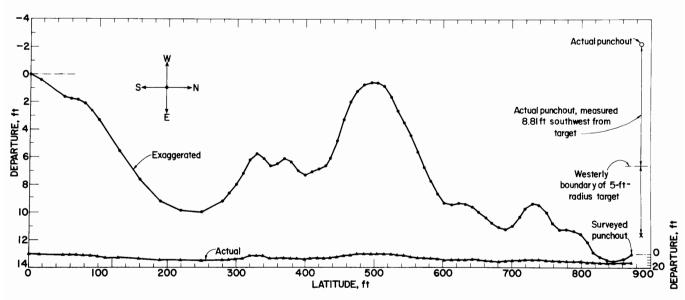


FIGURE 18.—Plan view of demonstration borehole. Abandoned borehole from 279 to 495 ft not shown. Before drilling of side-tracked borehole began at 289 ft, initial borehole resurveyed from 89 to 279 ft at 30-ft intervals as shown.

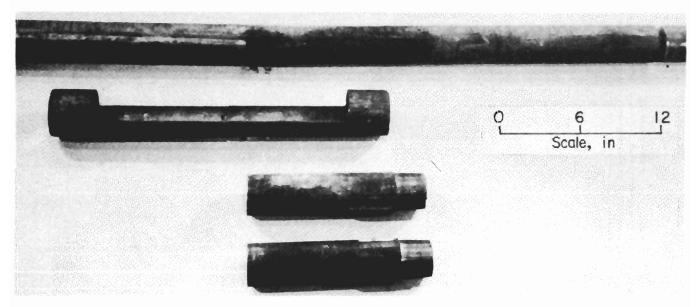


FIGURE 19.—Various bent housings. Top to bottom: 2° bent housing on in-hole motor, slip-on shoe, 1° bent housing with pad, 1/2° bent housing with pad.

trajectories were maintained to a depth of 250 ft, the vertical and horizontal deflection rates were inconsistent and unpredictable. Drilling continued to a depth of 455 ft without success in bringing the vertical and horizontal borehole trajectories to the desired course. The inconsistent deflection rates causing poor trajectory control resulted from a

lack of sufficient side force being generated while using the $1/2^{\circ}$ bent housing. The weak nature of the sandstone's intergranular material is believed to have negated any potential side force generated by the $1/2^{\circ}$ bent housing. At a depth of 455 ft, the drill string and in-hole motor were pulled out of the borehole to replace the $1/2^{\circ}$ housing with a 1° bent

housing, after it became apparent that the necessary increase in elevation of 112 ft and change in departure of 14 ft east required to intercept the target could not be accomplished using the 1/2° bent housing.

Drilling continued from 455 ft to a depth of 495 ft using the 1° bent housing with pad (fig. 19). Even though the vertical deflection rates were more consistent when compared to the $1/2^{\circ}$ bent housthe horizontal borehole trajectory continued west instead of east. At the survey depth of 479 ft (bit depth of 495 ft), the borehole was calculated to be 16.8 ft west of the target departure and 96.0 ft below target elevation. Consequently, it was decided to abandon the borehole and to sidetrack or start a new borehole from within the initial borehole at a depth of 289 ft. As with the 1/2° bent housing, the 1° bent housing apparently failed to generate sufficient side force to control borehole trajectory.

To accommodate the sidetrack at a depth of 289 ft, enough drill rod was removed from the borehole to position the drill bit at a depth of 275 ft, to begin the sidetrack. The sidetracking procedure has been described in a previous Bureau of Mines publication (2). Using the inhole motor equipped with the 1° bent housing, the sidetrack was started at a depth of 275 ft and completed at a borehole depth of 289 ft (fig. 17). The initial borehole was also resurveyed from 89 to 289 ft, primarily for bearing, after replacing a defective muleshoe and centralizing pumpdown washers that were believed to have caused error in measuring borehole bearing (table A-2, figure 13).

Drilling of the new borehole resumed from 289 ft to a depth of 385 ft after the 1° housing was replaced with a 2° housing equipped with a slip-on shoe (positioned on the in-hole motor at the apex of the 2° bent housing) (fig. 19). Desired borehole inclination and elevation were attained at a depth of 329 ft after only 40 ft of drilling with the 2° housing and slip-on shoe and were maintained thereafter. By referring to the actual borehole survey log and the desired

borehole departures in table A-2, it can be seen that horizontal trajectory was returned to and controlled within 2 ft of the desired borehole departure (fig. 18). Control on both vertical and horizontal borehole trajectories was accomplished for the first time because the tool face settings resulted in predictable and consistent deflection rates. While drilling with the 2° housing and slip-on shoe, compared to the previous bent housings, the side force generated was great enough to overcome the weak nature of the sandstone's intergranular material. Although directional control had improved, slip-on shoe frequently got stuck in the borehole while drilling, causing the average penetration rate to decrease to 7 in/min from 21 in/min with the previous housings. Therefore, at a depth of 385 ft, the drill rods and in-hole motor were removed from the borehole to remove the slip-on shoe from the 2° bent housing.

The demonstration borehole was completed to the final borehole depth of 885 ft using the 2° bent housing without the slip-on shoe (figures 8 and 19). Actual deflection rates were consistent and predictable for directional control with the 2° housing (table 1). The horizontal borehole trajectory was maintained within 2 ft east or west of the designed trajectory except for a short interval around 500 ft (fig. 18). Borehole elevation or vertical trajectory increased at an average rate of 1.98 ft per 10 ft drilled, maintaining an average borehole inclination of approximately 101.0° to successfully intercept the designated target elevation (fig. 17).

BOREHOLE PUNCHOUT AND INVESTIGATING ERROR IN AZIMUTH

The actual demonstration punchout depth was 885 ft at elevation 6,047.53, 1.50 ft below target center and 8.81 ft southwest of the target perimeter or 13.81 ft southwest of target center (fig. 20). The targeted punchout was to occur within a 5-ft radius with center coordinates of N 20,447.31, E 52,709.41 at elevation 6,049.03 ft. The calculations from the NL Sperry-Sun surveys showed the punchout

TABLE l Measu degrees per fo	red deflection rates usinot	ng 2° bent housing,
Tool face setting	Change in inclination (vertical)	Change in bearing (horizontal) ²

	Change i	n incl	ination	Change in b	earing
Tool face setting	(ve	rtical) 1	(horizont	a1) ²
	Range		Average	Range	Average
Right:					
20° to 40°		+0.09	+0.09	0.19R-0.27R	0.23R
40° to 60°	+0.00 to	+.11	+.06	.02R41R	• 1 5R
60° to 80°	+.01 to	+.12	+.06	.08R36R	•19R
80° to 100°	07 to	+.08	01	.09R49R	.18R
100° to 120°	-0.2 to	06	04	NAp	.13R
120° to 140°	07 to	10	08	.01R13R	.07R
140° to 160°		NAp	06	NAp	.03R
Left:					
0° to 20° ³	03 to	+.09	03	.30L11R	.12L
40° to 60°	01 to	+.06	+.05	.52L00R	.15L
60° to 80°	12 to	+.06	02	.40L02L	.25L
80° to 100°	12 to	+.04	04	.13L59L	.36L
100° to 120°		NAp	13	NAp	.07L
120° to 140°	07 to	20	12	.53L01R	.24L
140° to 160°		NAp	16	NAp	.11R

NAp Not applicable.

to be at elevation 6,047.14 ft 1.89 ft below the target center, and at coordinates N 20,439.96, E 52,710.80, 1.4 ft northeast of the target center. The elevation error between the actual and calculated punchout was 0.39 ft, which was well within the accuracy of the survey instrument. The coordinate error between the actual and calculated punchout was 15.20 ft (figures 18 and 20), which was within the 1° accuracy of the survey instrument in measuring bearing.

Investigation into calculating systematic compass error caused by drill string interference has indicated that a possible error of 0.30° E was imposed on the compass (11). Applying the equation developed by Blythe and Callas (11) for estimating compass spacing,

 $C = \sin^{-1} ((F/H)(\sin (I) \sin (E))),$

where C = compass correction, °,

F = net forces affecting compass, EMU,

H = horizontal component of
 earth's magnetic field inten sity (23,300 nT or 0.0233 EMU
 at Navajo Dam, according to
 the National Geophysical Data
 Center),

I = borehole inclination, 95°,

and E = compass reading, 350°.

 $F = PL / (DL)^2 + PU / (DU)^2,$

¹⁺ Increase (buildup); - decrease (drop).

²R Right (east); L Left (west).

³Left tool face settings were applied from 805- to 885-ft borehole depth. During that drilling interval, the necessary bit thrust of >7,000 lb was not readily available. Consequently, drilling penetration rates and deflection magnitudes decreased.

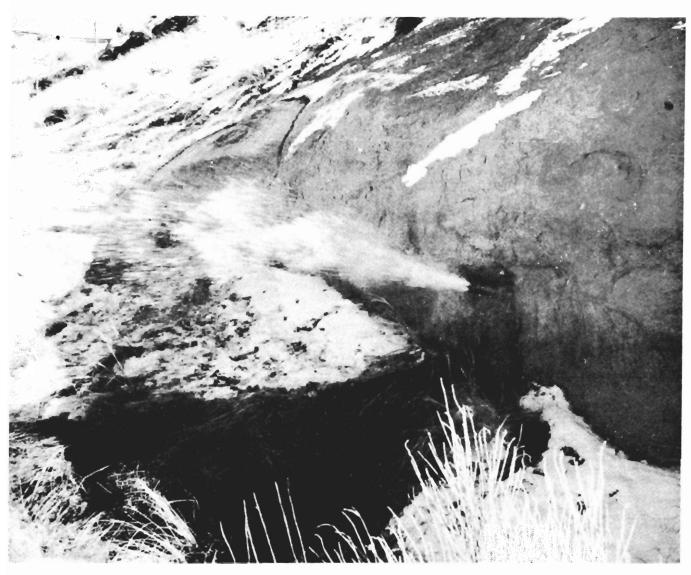


FIGURE 20.-Borehole punchout.

where PL = lower pole strength, estimated at 100 EMU,

> PU = upper pole strength, estimated at 1,000 EMU,

DL = compass distance from lower pole, 400 cm,

and DU = compass distance from upper pole, 3,020 cm.

 $C = -0.30^{\circ}$ (correction of 0.30° W).

A final punchout departure of 52,706.16 E was calculated by applying the compass error correction to the previously surveyed borehole bearings. This departure is 4.61 ft closer to the actual punchout as compared to not applying the compass correction. Although caution must be used when calculating compass correction caused by drill string interference, because pole strengths cannot be measured precisely and are not constant, the calculation in this application would have increased borehole punchout accuracy.

CONCLUSIONS

The demonstration borehole was directionally drilled to a final depth of 885 ft, where punchout occurred. Final borehole elevation was well within the target; borehole punchout coordinates were 8.81 ft southwest of the target. Boreholes can only be directionally drilled within the accuracy of the borehole survey system used. The NL Sperry-Sun type B 120° single-shot directional survey instrument is accurate to within 1° bearing and 0.24° inclination. The boreholesurveyed punchout, relative to the landsurveyed actual punchout, was within the accuracy of the NL Sperry-Sun survey

instrument. The 2° bent housing was the most effective in maintaining directional control of the vertical and horizontal borehole trajectories.

As a result of the demonstrated borehole drilling accuracy, the original plan of constructing a long tunnel under the right abutment of Navajo Dam and drilling 150-ft boreholes from inside the tunnel to control water seepage was abandoned. The Bureau of Reclamation has instead contracted the construction of a shorter tunnel and the accurate drilling of boreholes as long as 600 ft, resulting in a substantial cost savings to the taxpayer.

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APPENDIX. -- DRILL AND BOREHOLE SURVEY LOGS

TABLE A-1. - Log of directional drilling parameters

	Comments	3-1/2-in reamed to hein III.	2									Lost circulation.			Completed dye test.	Regained circulation.						Lost partial circulation.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Return water flow increased.	Do.	Do.
Survey	tíme, min	Q A N	<u>.</u>										99	30	28	41	41	51	43	32	41	45	31	25	54	47	13	24	24	30	45	26	34	06
Drill time,	10-ft rod, min	NAN	1	6	5	2	11	10	10	8	80	9	7	12	10	7	7	11	10	80	80	7	6	80	9	7	8	C	က	7	4	3	7	3
Thrust	force, 1bf	N A N	-	2,330	2,330	2,330	2,330	2,330	2,330	2,330	2,330	3,914	4,008	7,660	7,660	4,474	4,194	4,100	4,380	4,380	4,380	4,567	4,324	4,287	4,380	4,474	4,474	4,474	4,567	4,622	7,660	7,660	4,622	4,567
Thrust	pressure, bars	NAn). :	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	210	215	250	250	240	225	220	235	235	235	245	232	230	235	240	240	240	245	248	250	250	248	245
Bit	torque, ft·1bf	NAn	<u>.</u>	95	95	95	95	95	95	110	110	95	95	95	95	110	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	100	100	100	95	125	110	100	100	100	100
Bit	rotation, r/min	NAn	<u>.</u>	2	855	855	855	855	855	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	785	800	785	785	825	813	825
water	psig	NAn	<u>.</u>	550	550	550	550	550	550	009	009	550	550	550	550	009	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	575	575	575	550	200	625	575	575	575	575
Intake	mdg	NAn	<u>.</u>	70	70	70	70	70	70	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	99	65	65	89	. 67	89
Borehole	depth, ft	NAD	<u>.</u>			65		85	95	105	115	125	135	145	155	165	175	185	195	205	215	225	235	245	255	265	275	285	295	305	315	325	335	345
Date,	1985	Sept.:		4	7	7	7	8	11	19	19	20	20	20	20	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	23	23	23		23	24	24	24	24	24	24

NAp Not applicable. Thrust force = Thrust pressure (bars) \times 14.7 psig/bar \times 1.268 in² (piston area).

TABLE A-1. - Log of directional drilling parameters--Continued

1	Comments		Return water flow increased.	Output flow	9 Output flow >70 gpm.				10) 80-gpm outflow.		Installed 1° housing.		- 6					Installed 2° with shoe.	Surveying problems.			6	- 0					- 0	p Removed slip-on shoe.		5			9 Conducted 2 surveys.			
-	time, min		31	33	139	57	46	20	3,5	.9	31	40	31	NA	42	39	3	36		NAp	NAp	NAp	37	47	19	<u>ё</u>	30	2	32	32	30	NAp	23	42	28	45	<u> </u>	22	26	
	10-ft rod, min		3	7	m	7	7	4	5	9	9	က	7	NAp	e	σ	3	· m		NAp	NAp	NAp	21	28	13	6	13	80	31	21	25	NAp	2	2	4	5	9	2	2	
Thrust	force, 1bf		4,567	4,567	4,380	4,567	4,660	4,753	4,753	4,660	4,660	4,660	7,660	NAp	4,660	4,660	4,660	4,660	•	NAp	NAp	NAp	4,660	7,660	4,660	4,287	4,660	4,846	4,660	7,660	4,846	NAp	4,846	5,126	5,499	5,406	5,685	5,592	5 499	```
Thrust	pressure, bars		245	245	235	245	250	255	255	250	250	250	250	NAp	250	250	250	250		NAp	NAp	NAp	250	250	250	230	250	260	250	250	260	NAp	260	275	295	290	305	300	295	, , ,
Bit	torque, ft·1bf		110	110	110	110	100	90	95	90	95	110	110	NAp	115	110	125	125		NAp	NAp	NAp	170	176	178	176	176	156	166	156	148	NAp	06	06	95	90	95	06	06	,
Bit	rotation, r/min		813	813	813	813	813	813	785	785	825	825	825	NAp	746	730	730	825		NAp	NAp	NAp	785	800	813	800	800	785	839	785	813	NAp	825	800	785	800	785	800	813	,
at.	psig		009	009	009	009	575	200	550	200	550	625	625	NAp	650	009	700	700		NAp	NAp	NAp	650	650	650	920	550	009	009	009	550	NAp	200	525	550	200	550	510	510	
Intake	gbm		29	- 69	- 69	- 69	19	19	65	65	89	89	89	NAp	63	62	62	- 89		NAp	NAp	NAp	65	99	29	99	99	65	69	65	29	NAp	89	99	65	99	65	99	67	;
Borehole	depth, ft		355	365	375	385	395	405	415	425	435	445	455	NAp	465	475	485	495	-	NAp	NAp	NAp	305	315	325	335	345	355	365	375	385	NAp	395	405	415	425	435	445	455	•
Date,	1985	0ct.:	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	26	30	30	30	30	Nov.:	1	•	5	9	9	9	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	9	9	9	9	9		6	•

Surveying problems. Conducted 2 surveys.			Do.			Do.								Do.					Repaired survey hardware.									Used a winch, +1,000 lb.	Do.	Do.										
90	62	22	69	77	30	20	31	70	45	94	30	15	28	67	22	29	35	21	155	25	30	17	21	70	25	53	20	52	70	30	27	21	27	30	33	22	56	33	27	
9 7	7	5	∞	7	9	11	9	9	9	2	6	11	10	6	9	9	7	15	7	15	6	9	∞	17	23	25	39	23	20	20	16	15	13	11	11	13	12	14	11	
5,592	5,592	5,592	5,778	5,778	5,965	5,965	5,778	5,778	5,778	5,778	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,592	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	5,965	
300	300	300	310	310	320	320	310	310	310	310	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	300	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	320	
95	100	06	95	95	06	95	7.5	06	06	95	95	95	95	06	06	95	06	06	06	100	06	06	06	06	06	85	06	80	80	85	75	80	06	06	80	80	7.5	7.5	80	
800	785	771	785	785	785	800	813	813	785	771	813	785	800	800	785	785	800	800	800	785	813	813	813	800	800	800	785	800	813	785	785	800	800	800	800	785	785	785	785	
550	575	525	550	550	525	550	410	490	525	550	525	240	550	490	520	550	200	200	200	575	525	200	200	200	200	470	495	450	450	480	425	475	200	200	780	470	450	094	470	
99										_				_					99	65	- 67	- 67	- 67	99	99	99	65	99	19	65	65	99	99	99	99	9	65	9	65	
485	505	515	525	535	545	555	565	575	585	595	909	615	625	635	645	655	999	675	685	695	705	715	725	735	745	755	765	775	785	795	802	815	825	835	845	855	865	875	885	
		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	4		•	4	4	•	•	•	5	5	•	5	5	99	9	91	99	99	99	99	8	8	:			:	8	&	8.	

Thrust force = Thrust pressure (bars) \times 14.7 psig/bar \times 1.268 in 2 (piston area). NAp Not applicable.

TABLE A-2. - Demonstration borehole survey log and log of desired departures

Corres- ponding depth, ft4	0 0	20	30	20 40	09	70	80	06	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	230	240	250	260	270
Desired departures, ft3	52,697.79	2,698.0	52,698.19	2,698.4	2,690.5	2,	2,698.8	2,698.9	2,699.	2,669,2	2,699.3	2,699.	2,699.6	2,699.7	2,699.	2,700.0	2,700.	2,700.	2,7	2,700.	2,700.	2,700.	52,700.96	701.	2,701.2	52,701.36
True vertical depth, ft ²	-5,933,53	5,933.	-5,932.67	5,932.1	,932.	,93	,932.	,932.1	,932.	,932.5	,932.7	,93	,932.9	,933.0	,933.2	-5,933,43	,933.5	,93	,933.3	,933.2	,93	,933.2	-5,933.28	,933.2	-5,933,32	-5,933.46
Latitude, ft	19,567.69	19,583.68	NAp	19,616.64	9	636.6	,646.6	,656.6	,666	,676.5	,686.5	,696	,706.5	,716.5	,726.5	,736.5	,746.5	,75	,766.5	19,776.51	۲,	19,796.51	19,806.51	19,816.50	19,826.50	19,836.48
Departure, ft	52,697.79 NAD	52,698.18	NAp	52,699.42	69,	2,69	6,669,	2,700.4	2,701	2,701.8	2,702.	2,70	2,703.1	,70	2,703.	2,70	,703.	2,703.	2,7	52,704.04	2,70			,70		52,702.51
Change in true vertical depth,	NAp 0, 11	•36	•39 31	.19	.14	•04	03	11	17	21	21	13	10	11	15	22	10	•10	.11	• 05	•01	01	01	00.	+00	14
Change in lati- tudes,	NAp NAp	15.99	NAp	32.96	66.6	66.6	6.	•	9.97	•	•	•	•	66.6	6.	••	66.6	•	•	66.6	6.	6.	•	66.6	6.	66.6
Change in depar- tures,	NAP NAP	0.39	NAp	1.24	.15	90•	•26		.73			.54	.31	.17	.17	.25	• 18	03	•03	•10	90•		29	31	37	43
Azimuth (uncorrected), deg	NAP	350.81	NAp	349.50	348.25	348.50	350,50	351.50	352.86	350.70	351.20	351,00	348.90	349.50	348.47	350,36	347.70	•	348.40	348.70	348.00	345.70	347.00	345.50	346.30	344.80
Borehole incli- nation, deg	90.0	88.0	87.5	88.9	89.5	0.06	90.4	6.06	91.0	91.4	91.0	90.5	9.06	90.7	91.0	91.5	89.7	89.2	89.5	6.68	0.06	90.1	0.06		90.5	•
Survey depth, ft	0	16	26 36	49	29	69	19	68	66	109	119	129	139	149	159	169	179	189	199	209	219	229	239	249	259	569
Bore- hole depth, ft	NAp	NAp	NAp	65	7.5	82	95	105	115	125	135	145	155	165	175	185	195	205	215	225	235	245	255	265	275	285

280	290	300	310	320	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	044	450	460	410	480	90	100	130	160	190	220	250	280	290	300	310	320
52, 701.49	701.6	,701.7	,701.8	,702.0	,702.1	,702.2	,702.4	,702.5	,702.6	,702.7	,702.	,708.	,703.	,703.	,703.	,703	,703.	,703	,703	,704.	,698	,669,	,669;	,6696	2,700.	2,700.	2,701.	2,701.	2,701.	2,701.	2,701.	2,702.
5,933.7	5,934.0	934.4	934.9	5,935.4	936.1	936.8	937.6	938.7	939.6	940.8	941.7	945.	943.	944.	5,945.	946	5,947.	646	950	952.	932.	932.	932.	933.	933.	932.	,933.	,933.	934.	,934.	935	,936.
8,6	9,856.4	9,866.4	376.4	9,886.4	9,896.3	906	,916.2	,926.2	,936.1	,946,0	,955.9	,965.9	,975.9	,985.8	,995.7	,005.7	,056.6	,025.5	,035.	,045.	,656.	,666.	, 969,	,726.	,756.	,786.	9,816.	9,646	9,826.	9,866	19,876.23	9,886.
,702.0	,701.6	,701.4	,701.0	,700.5	,700.0	699.5	.669,	,698.4	,697.7	,697.	,696.	,696.	,969	.969	,695.	,695.	,694	.,694	,693	,695.	700	701.	,703.	2,705.	2,707.	2,707.	2,707.	2,707.	2,706.	2,705.	52,704.99	2,704.
• 2	-,33	40	48	57	65	72	$\boldsymbol{\omega}$	Γ.		٥,	85	86	93	٠.	$\tilde{}$		•	•		•	Z	17	•				.13			53	88	•
9.98	66.6	9.99	96.6	9.97	9.97	96.6	9.95	9.92	9.90	9.93	9.95	96.6	96.6	9.95	9.93	9.92	9.91	9.90	9.88	9.84	NAD	9.97	6	6	29.96	6	6	6	6	9.97	9.93	98.6
-0.51	.31	•	•	•	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-,15	-	_	-	-		77			.70			1.57		.13	78			- 83	86*-
5,3	7.1	0.9	5.3	5.1	5.1	4.9	5.1	4.9	2.5	5.6		7	9	و ا	5.	5	7	3	3	5	<u>.</u>	25	52.	52.	0	8	8	5	44	77	342.00	5
	•		•	•	•	•	•								-	_	_	_	~~	•	_				•	_	\sim	` —	\sim	~	າດ	98.9
									369													66	129	159	189	219	676	279	289	566	309	319
295	305	315	325	335	345	355	365	375	385	395	405	415	425	435	445	455	465	475	485	567	(5)	(2)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(2)	(2)	305	3.5	325	335

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE A-2. - Demonstration borehole survey log and log of desired departures--Continued

Corres-	ponding	deptii, fr4	7 7	330	340	350	360	370	380	390	400	410	420	430	440	450	7460	470	480	490	200	510	520	530	240	550	260	570	580	290	009	610
Desired	rd (tures,	٦ (2,702.1	2,702.2	2,702.4	2,702.	2,702.6	52,702.79	2,702.9	2,703.0	2,703.1	2,703.3	2,703.4	2,703.5	2,703.7	2,703.8	2,703.9	2,704.0	2,704.2	2,704.3	2,704.4	2,705.6	2,705.7	2,705.8	2,706.0	2,706.1	2,706.2	2,706.3	52,706.52	2,706.6	2,706.7
	vertical	deptii,	T C	938.4	,940.3	,945.	943.6	,945.2	,947.3	9,646,	,951.6	,953.5	,955.4	,952.1	,958.8	,960.6	,962.5	,964.5	,966.7	,968.9	,971.1	,973.2	,975.5	,977.8	,980.1	,982.1	,984.0	,985,9	,987.7	986	,991.5	-5,993,46
1	Latitude,	ı		895.9	905.7	915.5	925.4	935.3	945.0	954.8	964.5	974.3	19,984.22	0.466	0,003.9	20,013.66	0,023.3	0,033.0	0,042.8	0,052.5	0,062.3	0,072.0	0,081.8	0,091.4	0,101.1	0,110.9	0,120.7	0,130.4		0,150.0	,159.7	0,16
	Departure,	וי		2,703.5	ζ,	2,704.4	2,	2,703.9	2,704.1	2,704.8	2,705.0	2,704.8	2,704.6	2,704.4	2,703.8	2,702.	2,701.1	2,699.8	2,699.0	2,689.5	2,69	2,698.4	2,698.6	2,699.4	2,700.4	2,701.2	2,702.2	2,703.4	,704.5	2,70	,706.4	52,707.12
1 ~	in true	Vertical	deptii, ft	.7	-1.85	. 7	-1.57		0.	. 2	-2.06	-1.90	•	-1.75		-1.77	∞	0	7	• 2	-2.16	-	. 2	-2,33	-2.25	0.	• •	∞	æ	-1.87		-1.94
Change	1n	ا ا	ft.	8	∞	∞	9.87	∞	. 7	. 7	. 7	φ.	∞	φ.	∞	9.76	٠.	. 7	. 7	. 7	7	. 7	.7	•	•	. 7	. 7	. 7	۲.	9.77		9.79
Change	1n		ועו	94.0-	.38	.53	17	35	.23	•65	.27	22	21	23	53	-1.25	5	-1.26	85	42	18		.23	•75			96.	1.21	7	66.	*6 *	
Azimuth	ncor	recreal,		6.7	2.5	9.6	4. 4	7.5	1.2	2.5	5.7	5.7	8.0	5.5	3,3	338.14	0.0	1.2	8.4	5,3	9.7	8.7	0.0	4.9	3,3	2.2	5.0	5.1	3.8	353.80	3.2	0.5
Borehole	1nc11-	nacion,		•		•	98.2	•				•	100.0	•	ċ	0	<u>-</u>	Ξ.	•	2	2	5	3	÷	2	•	-	•	ċ	100.8	•	•
	Survey	deptii, ft	٦ ر	329	339	349	359	369	379	389	399	409	419	429	439	644	459	694	614	489	665	509	519	529	539	549	559	569	579	589	599	609
Bore-	_ <	deptii, ft	1.	4	5	9	7	∞	9	0	-	7	3	4	2	9	7	∞	9	0	$\overline{}$	7	3	4	S	9	7	∞	6	605	-	7

																										Į	
620	630	049	650	099	670	989	069	200	710	720	730	740	750	160	770	780	190	800	810	820	830	840	850	860	870	880	
52,706,91	•	0	52,707.30	,07.	707.5	52,707.69	52,707.82	52,707.95	,08	52,708.21	52,708.34	52,708.47	52,708.60	52,708.73	52,708.86	52,708.99	52,709.12	709.	52,709.38	52,709.51	709.	52,709.77	709.	710.	52,710.16	52,710.29	
-5,955,33	-5,997.12	-5,998.95	-6,000.88	-6,002.82	-6,004.65	-6,006.31	-6,007.91	-6,009.61	-6,011.26	-6,012.86	-6,014.56	-6,016,39	-6,018.40	-6,020,43	-6,022.39	-6,024.23	-6,025.98	-6,027.73	-6,029.58		-6,033.80	-6,036.08	-6,038,42	8	-6,044.24	-6,047.14	
20,179,38	189.2	20,199.05	20,208.85	20,218.67	_	20,238.33	20,248.20	20,258.05	20,267.91	20,277.76	20,287.60	20,297.42	20,307.22	20,316,99	20,326.76	20,336.58	20,346.42	20,356.27	20,366.09	20,375.86	20,385.60	5.3	405.0	20,414.75	428.3	20,439.96	
52,707,24	52,707.15	2,707.	52,707.42	2,707.	2,708.	2,078.	52,708.87			52,708.12		52,707.15	52,707.24	52,707.81	52,708.63	52,709.05	52,709.04	52,709.13	52,709.37	52,709.45	52,710.60	52,711.02	52,711.22	52,711.32	52,711.14	52,710.80	
-1.86	-1.80	-1.82	-1.93	-1.94	-1.83	-1.66	-1.60	-1.70	-1.65	-1.60	-1.70	-1.83	-2.00	-2.04	-1.96	-1.84	-1.74	-1.75	-1.85	-2.03	-2.19	-2.20	-2.34	-2.41	-3.41	-2.89	
9.82	9.84	9.83	9.81	9.80	9.82	9.80	9.87	9.85	98.6	9.85	9.84	9.82	7	9.77	9.77	9.82	9.84	9.84	9.82	9.77	9.73	.7	9.72	. 7	• •	1.64	
0.13	60	•05	.21	•33	.41	040	.30	.16	28	64	58	38	60.	.57	.81	.42	00.	60	.23	.59	.71	•36	.19	.10	18	-,35	
347.00	347.90	348.70	349.80	350,10	350.70	350.00	349.50	348.40	344.40	344.20	345.00	346.50	350.60	352,10	353.40	347.50	œ	348.60	350.10	352,80	351.60	4	349.70	347.50	347.00	345.60	
100.5	100.2	100.8	101.5	100.9	100.2	6.86	99.5	100.1	98.9	99.5	100.1	101.0	102.1	101.4	101.2	100.0	100.1	100.1	101.2	102.2	103.1	103.3	103.8	104.1	104.1	103.8	102710
619	679	639	649	629	699	619	689	669	402	719	729	739	149	759	692	779	789	199	808	819	829	839	849	859	698		Not ann
635	645	655	999	675	685	595	705	715	725	735	745	755	765	775	785	795	805	815	825	835	845	855	865	875	ω	885	NAN

radius of curvature calculator program. Corrects for magnetic declination (Navajo Dam, add 12° E in NE quadrant). Engineering 40 scale used to eliminate reader bias. Changes to TVD: Up -, Down +. Borehole bearing converted to uncorrected azimuth, NAp Not applicable.

³Log of desired departures every 10 ft, collar to 880 ft using azimuth of 0.76°.

89 to 279 ft because of Borehole resurveyed at 289 ft. ⁵Borehole terminated at 495 ft, new borehole sidetracked defective survey hardware; used original surveys 0 to 89 ft. $^{-1}$ Depth at which desired departures calculated.