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NDOLA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

by

B ADAMS

December 1974

INOTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES WWD/75/2

DEPARTMENT

FILE No: 15

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<u>Introduction</u>

The writer visited Mola between the 26 November and the 19 December 1974 in order to appraise the further progress of the Mola Groundwater Study being undertaken by Brian Colquhoun, Hugh O'Donald and Partners on behalf of the Ministry of Overseas Development and the Department of Water Affairs, Government of Zambia, following a previous brief visit by Dr. E.P. Wright (I.G.S.) in October. As a result of Dr. Wright's visit and discussions between representatives of Brian Colquhoun & Partners, O.D.A. and I.G.S., a draft report was produced (Ndola Water Supply Study: Report by Dr. E.P. Wright) in which several suggestions for the remaining work in the Ndola project were put forward. This present report results from the writers visit to the field to investigate the practicability of these proposals and to appraise the future development of the project.

1. Use of the Air Percussion Rig

It was recommended that every effort should be made to drill all wells by air percussion. However, for the following reasons this would appear to be impracticable.

- (i) With only one air percussion rig on site (a URB-2A) it would, apart from any other consideration, be an uneconomical use of time to insist that all remaining bores be drilled by the air percussion method.
- (ii) The minimum up hole velocity for good chip removal has been determined by field work to be approximately 4,000-6,000 ft per min. The air capacity required in cubic feet per minute to obtain

an up hole velocity of 4,000 ft per min is calculated as follows:
CFM = $\frac{A \times 4 + .000 \times 12}{1.720}$ (c.f. Water Well Technology 9.128)

where A is the annular area between the drill stem and the bore walls. Thus for a bore dicireter of $12\frac{3}{4}$

CFM =
$$\sqrt{(12.25)^2 \times .785} - ((4.5)^2 \times 785) / \times 4,000 \times 12$$

. 1,728

= 2830 c.f.m.

for d = 10"

CFM =
$$\frac{\sqrt{(10)^2 \times 1785} - ((4.5)7 \times 4,000 \times 12)}{1,728}$$

= 1,739 c.f.m.

for d = 6!

CFI =
$$\int ((6)^2 \times .735) - ((4.5)^2 \times .785) / x + .000 \times 12$$

1,728

= 343 c.f.m.

NOTE: These values could be decreased by enlarging the stem size, however increasing the stem size to the maximum to still allow a chip clearance of 5/16" does not alter the order of the required CFM, besides which no alternative stem size is abailable.

As mentioned previously there is only one air percussion rig on site and this has a compressor rated at 700 CFM, the obvious conclusion being that this rig can only safely drill 6" diameter wells.

2. Use of Rotary Rigs

Since the attention of the contractors was brought to the excessive amounts of bentonite used during the rotary drilling, bentonite has only been used during penetration of the overburden (which is of course cased off) and once in the aquifer, water only is used as the drilling fluid. Foaming agents are not available.

3. Aquifer Testing

- the air rig was not actually used to penetrate the aquifer and so it was not possible to take measurements of production rates, drawdown data. piezometric heads and electrical conductance during drilling. However it was reemphasised, both to the drilling crews and the site engineer (c.f. Memo. B. Adams to T. Golder 19.12.74 note 3), that such measurements must be taken.
- (ii) Slug tests. Slug tests were carried out at all completed sites. It was also suggested that slug tests should be carried out on any future wells which show low yields or poor hydraulic connection with neighbouring wells (c.f. Memo B. Adams to T. Golder note 4).
- (iii) Development and Specific Capacity. The drilling contractors have not been keeping full records on development and specific capacity tests on completed wells. It was reemphasised both to the drillers on site and the site engineer (c.f. Memo B. Adams to T. Golder note 5) that detailed records must be kept in future.
- (iv) During the writers visit, the stage of completion at any one site was not such that a "mini pump test" could be carried out to site the final bore, as suggested in Dr. Wright's draft report. It was recorded that such a procedure should be adopted (c.f. Memo 19.12.74 note 6). It was also recommended that QB should initially be sited at a distance of 20m from the production bore, QA initially remaining 2m distance; the assumption being that transmissivity will be greater down ground water gradient thus giving a greater drawdown in QB. Such a configuration would give the possibility of using distance drawdown methods of analysis.

- specifically for this contract according to the original pumping specification (i.e. large yield). However, following the recommendation that pumping drawdowns should preferably not exceed 6 metres and that the pump setting should be at a maximum of about 10 metres below static water. level, problems in its use have resulted. For example at Q10 the multi rate tests indicated that to avoid turbulence and to give a small drawdown a pumping rate of some 4,400 I.g.ph. would be required. However, the lowest rate obtainable with the turbine pump at this setting (28m below surface) was 8,850 I.g.ph. obviously the higher the pump setting the higher the efficiency of the pump and therefore the higher the minimum rate obtainable. It will therefore be necessary to test Q10 by air lift pumping.
- (vi) The design of production bore. The design of the production bore has been modified so that the large diameter (260mm) continues to approximately 20 or 30m (to allow optimum pump setting) below which the diameter is decreased to 150/200mm. Where possible open hole construction will be used and failing that slotted casing.
- (vii) Discharge. It has been reemphasised that discharge from aquifer tests must be carried a sufficient distance from the site to avoid recycling and a minimum of 100m has been recommended (c.f. Memo 19.12.74 note 8).

4. Results of Meeting @ I.G.S. 14.11.74

(i) Cleaning of Wells. During the writer's visit both wells Q3 and Q10 were rawhided by the test pump until the native clays ceased to be carried into the well. At early stages in the surging the turbidity of the water was evidently due to native clays suspended in the water and it is the drilling supervisor's opinion that once the well has been developed "free" of

these native clays, any bentonite and drilling cuttings which may have extered the formation during drilling will also have been cleared. Conductivity Logs. Equipment failure prevented salinity/temp. logging of completed wells.

(555) Gamma Log. Australian Ground Water Consultants expect to have their gamma log on site early in the new year.

5. Site Representation during writer's visit

Resident Site Engineer:

T. Golder of Brian Colquboun And Partners

Wisiting Drilling Supervisor: R. McCallum of A.G.C. (25.11.74 - 16.12.74)

Visiting Hydrogeologist:

G. Hubert of A.G.C. (25.11.74 - 10.12.74)

During the absence of a hydrogeologist on site test results are telexed to A.G.C.'s office in Johannesburg which can involve long periods of delay der to poor communications between Zambia and South Africa. As it is sometimes important for on site decisions to be made (e.g. as to whether to prolong a particular test should boundary effects begin to show) it would be preferable for a hydrogeologist to be on site during the tests.

State of Progress (19.12.74)

Q1. 2 a.ws drilled showed very low yields, drilling production well postponed.

Q2. 2 c.ws and 1 p.w.

Test complete

O. 2 c.ws and 1 p.w.

Test complete

C4. 2 c.ws and 1 p.w.

Testing about to commence.

65. 1.o.w. amd 1 p.w.

2nd o.w. to be sited from tests on other bores

Q6. 2 a.ws. and 1 p.w.

Low yield, to be air lift tested after casing in p.w. has been pulled

Q7. 1 a.w. and 1 p.w.

Drilling of other o.w. postponed due to low yield.

28. 2 o.ws and 1 p.w.

Retest complete.

29. Production bore under construction.

Q10. 2 0.ws and 1 p.w.

Test complete.

.011.

212. Production bore and one o.w. under construction.

B. Adams
December 1974.

Ndola Water Supply Project - Appendix Determination of Aquifer Parameters

During the writers visit to Ndola it was intended that slug testing, conductivity/temperature logging, and flow metering should be carried out at all possible wells as an aid to determination of the aquifer parameters. Unfortunately, due to equipment failure it was not possible to use the conductivity/temperature probe and so no logs were obtained. The size of the flow meter (5"diameter) meant that it could only be used in the production bores. However, as the same reel had to be used for the salinity/temp. probe, the pressure transducer, and the flow meter, it was decided not to use the flow meter as it would have been necessary to position it in the well before the pump was possitioned thus resulting in the reel being unavailable for long periods (i.e. the length of time required for development and test pumping). Thus the only results obtained were from slug tests in all completed bores which were not occupied by other equipment (e.g. drill, air-pipes, pump), concentivity measurements of periodic samples collected during the testing of \$3 and \$10., and the pump-tests carried out during the visit.

Aquifer Tests using the turbine Pump

It is not the purpose of this report to give detailed analyses of the pump-tests so far carried out, but it is necessary to consider the results so far obtained when discussing results of the slug tests.

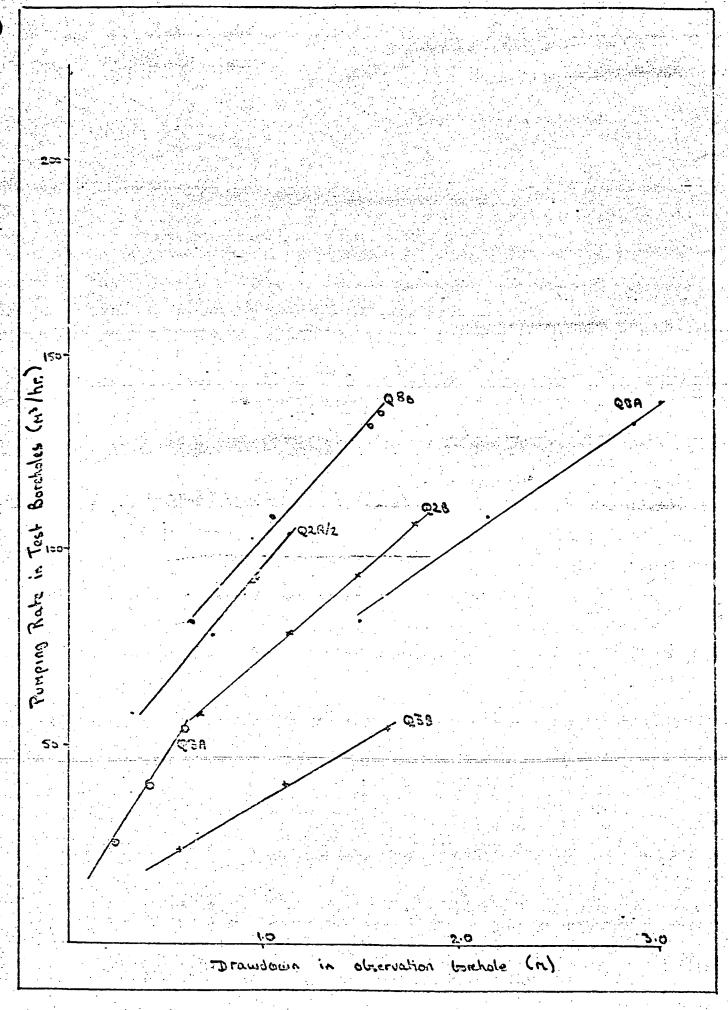
Prior to the writer's visit pump tests had been completed on Q8 and Q2. It had been decided that Q8 should be retested as it was thought that recirculation had probably occured during the original test due to the discharge point being situated only a few metres away from the production well. The retesting of Q8 and the testing of Q3 were completed during the visit along with a multirate test at Q10.

Application of standard methods of aquifer test analysis in fissured acuifers must be treated with caution as some of the basic assumptions of these methods involving homogeneity, isotropy etc. do obviously not hold. However, it is considered (Foster & Milton, 1974) that if the increase in drawdown observed in an observation well is directly proportional to an increase in pumping rate, darcian flow theory is applicable and the standard methods of Thiem, Theis, Walton etc., can possibly be applied. Figure 1 shows the results obtained from multirate tests in the wells so far tested.

The ratios of production rates in successive steps as compared to the ratio of drawdown in the observation wells during the corresponding successive steps (Figure 1) indicate an approximation to Darcian flow at all three sites. It should therefore be reasonable to apply standard methods of analysis to tests at these sites. This has been done and a summary of the results is given in Table 1.

The consistency of the results given in Table 1 and the previous comments about Darcian flow would indicate that: the transmissivity in the area of site 92 is of the order of $200\text{m}^3/\text{day/m}$ with a storage value of 1×10^{-2} . At 98 the transmissivity is of the order of $2000 \text{ m}^3/\text{day/m}$ (no S value being available from the Thiem method of analysis). At neither 92 or 98 is there any indication of variability of in T with direction, but at 93 it would appear that the transmissivity in the direction of groundwater flow is $1000 \text{ m}^3/\text{day/m}$ whereas in a direction perpendicular to groundwater flow the value is only $400 \text{ m}^3/\text{day/m}$, the storage being of the order of 1×10^{-3} .

These storage values are somewhat high for what was considered to be a confined aquifer. In fact study of the depth of overburden and the



Europeace of Darcian flow during pump books.

FIGURE 1

WELL	METHOD OF	TEST RATE	T	S
	ANALYSIS	(m ³ /day)	m ³ /d/M	
Q2A/2	Walton	2549	204	0.02
024/2		3071	205	0.02
Q24/2	Zesičual Dd.	3071	252	
Q2A/2	Jacob	2549		
Q2A/2	A A The same of th	3071	150	
Q2B	Theis	2549	204	0.009
Q2B		3071	129	0.007
Q2B	Residual Drawdown	3071.	312	
Q2B	Jacob	2549		
4 . Q2B	Jacob	3071	300	
				_
Q3A	Theis	46.14	1012	3x10 ⁻³
Q3A	Jacob	-46.14	1192	3x10 ⁻³
Q3A	Hantush	46.14	1117	3x10 ⁻³
Q3A	Residual Dd.	46.14	768	
03A	Calc. Recovery	46.14	1073	7x10 ⁻⁵
Q3B	Theis	46.14	364	7x10 ⁻⁴
Q3B	Jacob	46.14	431	5x10 ⁻⁴
Q3B	Hantush	46.14	407	5x10 ⁻⁴
Q3B	Residual Dd.	46.14	575	
93E	Calc. Recov.	46.14	560	7x10 ⁻⁵
MARCHAD !				
₹ Q8 Ø	Thiem	1440	1798	
Q8B	Thiem	1440	2298	
	را در این	المراقع	ر المعالم الم والمعالم المعالم المعا	: A =

TABLE 1. Summary of results of pump test analysis.

is actually below the overlying layer of laterite and at some of the other sites only a slight lowering of the rest water level would be enough to bring about water-table conditions. Analysis of the pump tests at Q3 and Q2 shows that the lateritic overburden is not totally impervious and leakance does occur through it.

Slug Tests

Known quantities of water were introduced into the bore holes and the decline in head within the bore was recorded as a function of time by using a pressure transducer connected to a graphical recorder. Due to the narrow diameter of the observation bores it was decided that the simplest method of injecting slugs of water as quickly as possible while providing a means of air escape from the well would be to pour from a sucket.

In analysing the results of these slug tests there are several points which should be borne in mind. Perhaps the most important is that the equations used in the slug test analysis were developed from the Theis equation (Ferris & Knowles 1954) which is of course applicable to confined conditions. Study of Table 2 shows that at the majority of wells tested water table conditions in fact exist. The theory behind this method also assumes an even distribution of permeability with depth which is almost certainly not the case in the aquifer under consideration. This assumption is more critical to slug testing, where the results are essentially a point measurement, than to pump tests where the effect of variation of permeability can be masked (if Darcian flow is present) by the distance of flow between the observation well and the production well is also important to consider the effect that slotted casing will have on the results. Although the presence of slotted casing should not alter the

WELL	DEPTH OPEN T	O AQUIFER	REST WATER	DEPTH OF
	OPEN HOLE	SCREENED	LEVEL	OVERBURDEN
	(N).	(M)	(M.below surface approximate.)	(to nearest metre.)
			(i)	(ii)
QlA		25–80	21	16
QIB		25-80		
Q2		42-76	14	38
921/2		40.5-80		
Q 2B		42.5-80	24	
- Q 3		38-80		16
Q3A/2	Marin Barrier St.	<i>35</i> –80		
Q3B		38-75		
Q4	10-80		7	6
Q4B	13.60-80			gare de l'englis de les
9 6		6.50-80	7	7
Q6A		7-80		
Q6B		9-80		
Q7A	.10.2-80		43	5
98		14-80	4	10
Q8B	• .	17-80		
Q10A	11.60-80			?
Q10B	11.60-80			?

⁽i) rest water levels should only be considered approximate due to fluctuations.

TABLE 2. Borehole information.

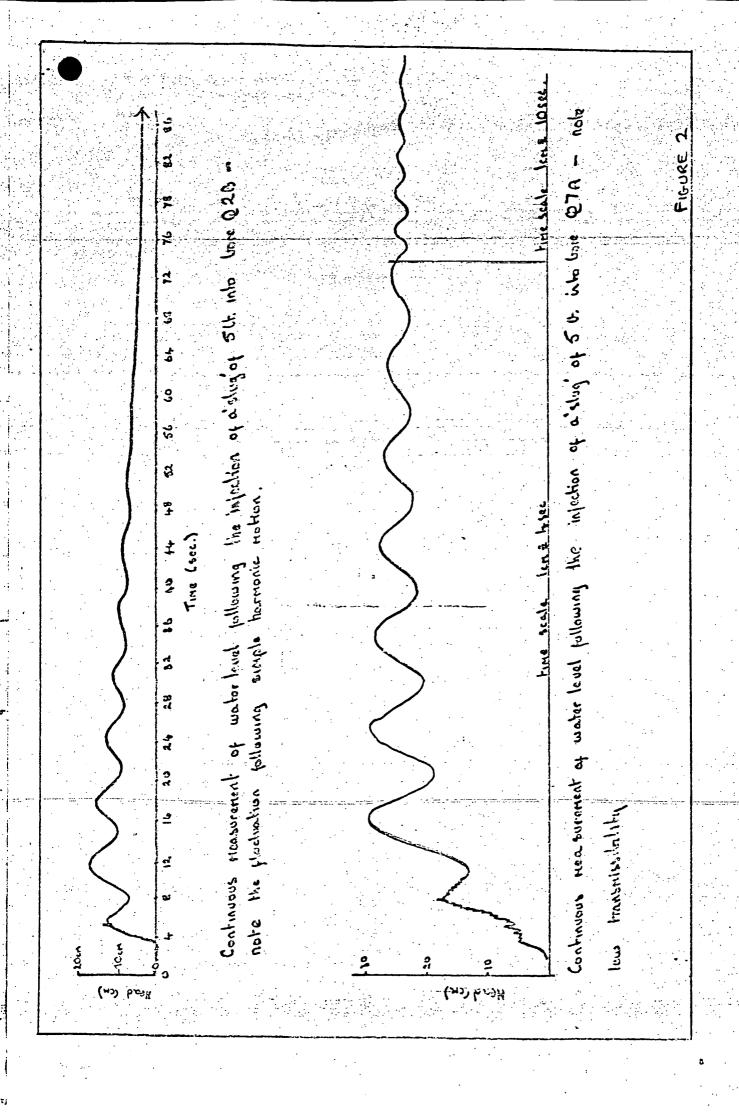
⁽ii) depth of overburden obtained from drillers logs, where available, of production bores and can be assumed to be correct for observation bores.

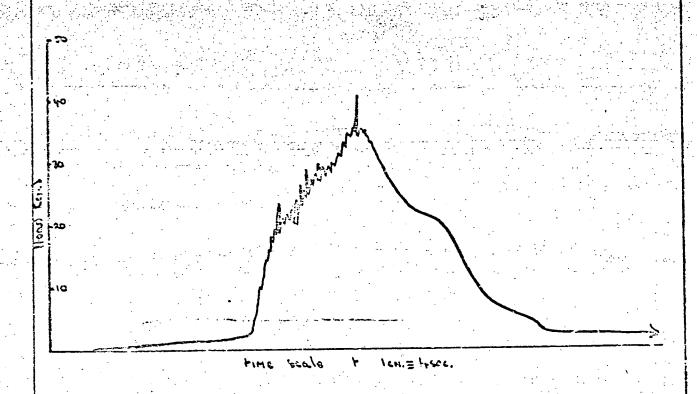
final shape of the data curve (derived from the decrease in head with time) it will obviously prolong the time period involved and thus give an apparent value of transmissibility lower than the actual. Finally, due to the nature of the type curves used for this method (i.e. essentially parallel) it is difficult to obtain a reliable value for S even under ideal conditions.

Observations on graphical output from tests

- (i) It was noted that in spite of the shallow water table (approximately 10m) instantaneous rise in water level did not occur, for example see Ql graphs.
- (ii) It was also noted that the max. head obtained was never equal to the calculated maximum head (knowing the quantity of water injected and the diameter of the bore).
- (iii) It was noted that in some cases head did not decline immediately but held steady at the max. value for some time.

Under ideal conditions (e.g. a confined, homogeneous, isotropic gravel aquifer) an instantaneous maximum head followed by an exponential decJine in head with time should be recorded following an injection of a slug of water. It is noted that this was not the case ((i), (ii), (iii) above). This is no doubt a result of several factors including: the fissured nature of the aquifer, semi-watertable conditions and the well design. As mentioned previously, in many of the bores tested water table conditions existed and from Table 2 it can be seen that the open slot area of the casing generally commenced below rest water level. It is possible that upon injection of water, instantaneous dispersal into the aquifer below rest water level occurs causing increased head in the immediate vicinity of the well. Water then rises within the well to equalise this head difference resulting in a non





Continuous resourcement of water level pilowing the injection of a 'slug' of 1011 into lone Q3A12 - note high transmissibility lot atill shows simple tharmonic nation fluctuation

instantaneous recording of maximum head within the well which will be less than that calculated knowing the diameter of the bore and volume of water injected. If the transmissibility is relatively high the water level within the well will oscillate following simple harmonic motion as the head within the well equalises with the aquifer head. (e.g. Bore Q2B). In-low transmissibility areas the head decline will be relatively slow (e.g. Bore Q7A) compared to that in higher transmissibility areas (e.g. Bore Q2B). In some cases the transmissibility was too high for the method to be of value (Eore Q3).

In applying the method of Papadopolus et al. it was decided that Ho would be taken as the maximum recorded head and the time ordinate would be taken as the final time at which this maximum head was recorded.

The results of the slug tests carried out are recorded in Table 5.

Comments:

Transmissivity. The immediate observation is that the results are muc? lower than those obtained from the pump tests. This is obviously due chiefly, if not wholly, to the low percentage of open slot in the cased bores. A low T value is, however, recorded in Q4 which is open hole but as yet no results of a pump test for this site are available for comparison. Another observation resulting from comparison of the slug test results emphasises the variability of Transmissibility with only short distances in this fissured dolonttic acuifer. For example at site Q2 the pump test indicates a T value of some 200 m³/day/m with no apparent variation with direction. However slug tests in the two observation wells give quite different results; the time taken for identical slugs of water to disperse in the two wells is greater in Q2A/2 and the T value obtained is smaller by a factor of 7 than that for Q2B. This effect is of course expected in fissured rocks but it is important to note that the drillers records indicate that

· (1)	((2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
WELL NO	RAL	XIIIS	TIME AT	TRANS	TRANS	TRANS	
			MATCH	$T = 1.0r_c^2$	(4)x8.64	(5)x57.C5	
	(cm)	(сл)	(sec)	(cm ² /see)	(M ³ /day/m)	(Igpd/ft)	
ÇLA	5.08	5.08	32	0.806	6.964	466.9	10 ⁻¹⁰
O B	-5. 08	5-08	22	1.173	10.135	679.6	10-10
0 2	10.95	10.95	no match				
92B(i)	5.08	5-08	9•3	2.775	23.976	1607.6	10-10
(<u>ii</u>)	5-08	5.08	13.6	1.897	16.390	1098.9	10-10
Q2A/2	4.75	4-75	80	0.282	2.436	163.3	10 ⁻¹⁰
93	10.95	10.95	no match				
Q3A/2	4.45	4.45	no match				10.0
Q4	15.25	12.5	no match	_	-	-	
Q4B	7. 62	5-90	20	2.903	25.082	1681.7	10 ⁻¹⁰
Q6(i)	10.95	10.95	limited match 52	2.306	19.924	1335.9	10 ⁻¹⁰
(ii)	10-95	10.95	limited match 45	2.664	23.017	1543.3	10-10
Ç6A	5.08	5.08	limited match 30	.860	7.430	498.2	10-10
Q6B(i)	5.08	5.08	limited match 8.8	2.933	25.341	1699.1	10 ⁻¹⁰
(ii)	5.08	5.08	limited match	2.3461	20.269	1359.0	10-10
(iii)	5.08	5-08	Best match	0.152	1.313	88.0	10-2
Q7A	7-64	7-5	•	0.224	1.935	129.7	10-10
Q 8	10.5	10.5	no match	-	-	<u>-</u>	•
⊋ 8В	5.08	5-08	no match	- · ·	-	-	
010A(i)	5.01		10	2.51	21.686	1454.0	10-10
(ii)	ಾಗ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಜಾಲಕ್ಷಿಕ್ಕ	in i			16.062		10-10
Ç10B	5.01		limited match 120		1.806	121.1	10-10

TABLE 3. Slug Test results

a much greater quantity of bentonite was used in the construction of Q2A/2 than in Q2B (see table 4). If this excess of bentonite has not been adequately cleaned from the well it will of course give an effectively lower transmissibility than the actual.

As car we seen from table 3 similar differences in the values of transmissibility at pairs of observation wells also exist at Q6 A & B and Q10 A & B. However, as table 4 indicates, bentonite was not used in the construction of any of these wells. This effect must therefore be accredited to a differential in the fissures penetrated by the pairs of wells. This effect therefore emphasised that as regards determination of transmissibility, slug tests can only be regarded as point determinations.

At the present stage the only site at which both pump tests have been carried out and slug test have given results which can be analysed by the Papadopolus et al method is Q2 (at Q3 and Q8 the T is too large for the slug method to give results which can be analysed). When more pump tests have been completed it will be possible to compare the two sets of results and discuss their reliability.

Storage:

The values of storage coefficients obtained from the slug tests are very low (IC⁻¹⁰). It would be expected that the value of storage in a fissured comfined aquifer would be very small but these values do not compare with the values obtained from pump test for reasons given above and also the following. The storage values are obtained from the equation

$$\approx r_s^2/r_c^2$$

r = radius of screen or open hole

r = radius of casing in interval over which water level fluctuates

and is obtained from type curves

EWELL NO

METHOD OF
DRILLING
A= AIR HAMMER
R= ROTARY

BENTONITE USED
BELOW CEMENTED CASING
DURING CONSTRUCTION
(Kg)

COMMENTS

014	R	0	
013	A	0	
	R	2750	
Q2A/2	R	1250	
Q2B	R	0	
	R	2600	
Q3A/2	R	0	
103 B	A	0	
Q4	R	0	
Q4A	A	0	
•	R	0	
9 5	R	· O	
Q5 <u>A</u>	3	0	
·	R	2750	
	A	0	
	A .	0	
	R & A		
	A	0	
	R	5050	
	A & R	600	
Q8B	A & R	200	Bentonite only in las 5m.
Q10	A. & . R.		∑ •
Q10A	?	0?	
Q103	?	0?	
		•	

TABLE 4. Well Construction details

(Information taken from well records as supplied by drillers)

In calculating S it was assumed that $r_c=r_s$ but it is quite likely that caverns around the screen effectively increase r_s by an unknown amount. This would result in a smaller S value but it is of course impossible to quartify.

Conductivity Results

The conductivity of periodic samples was measured in a conductivity meter (MC1 MKV) during the constant rate test at Q8 and the multi rate test at Q10.

No great variation was recorded with time at either of the sites.

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. 5. Adams - I.G.S.

T. Golder

19th December, 1998.

- 1. Vaile it is appreciated that the available equipment is insufficient to give a large enough up hole to positive to contract the process of air the second positive and second in the second positive and second in the second positive and the seco
- 2. here letary drilling is caployed all efforts should be made to avoid the use of drilling fluids other than water.
- And the reference of the control of
- A. It is suggested that slog tests should be carried out in all wells that about you less that or near hydrer less made with heighbouring wells. A factor quantity of less made an observation beach such as included into the well that the rate of decline of head hyperias for a constant rate test. It is requested that a slog test with 10 litres of water thought to complete as for all items of water
- and specific capacity data obtained from air lift purpling of conclusion of air lift purpling of conclusion of air wells. It is noted that Granin have to be a replacedly received with 14th office of air according
- Should be completed first and following a "mini purp-test" the optiming position of the production bore change that the construction bore is completed before the observation bores the final observation have should be sited according to the results of a "mini pump-test" on the production bore. If, following such mini pump-test, on the

it is not possible to have one observation bore down gradies the production bore and one at 90° to the gradient ent the production bore, it is desirable that CA should respirable that

- 7. In order to enable speedier drilling of the production pore the discount into the correct pumpsetting for the condition approx.
- 8. During aquifer testing the discharge must be carried a sufficient distance from the site to avoid recording a minimum of 100m is recommended, but this may have to be increased if recycling is evident during a test.
- 9. It is desirable that low production rates are used during /to tests to give low drawdown, horizontal flow and/avoid turbulence.
 - 10. If results of testing the first wells to be completed at a site indicate a low T valve and therefore production rates are likely to be insufficient to be its property of turbine pump, two alternative procedures may be adopted. A test hole of narrower diameter could be drilled and tests using air lift pumping. Alternatively site testing could limited to air lift production from one observation bore while drawdown is recorded in the other.

It is recommended that such an air lift test be carried out in Q6 noting drawdowns in Q6A and Q6B (Geomin are of opinion that the casing in Q6 can safely be pulled before such a test). A decision will be made as to whether such testing should also be carried out at Q1 and Q7.

If site conditions do indicaso a low I reference should be?

B. ADAS (I.G.S.)

BA/bm/N