

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

GEOHYDROLOGIC DATA FOR TEST WELL UE-25b#1  
NEVADA TEST SITE, NYE COUNTY, NEVADA

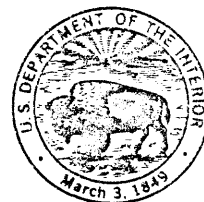
by

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and Laura Bruckheimer

Open-File Report 83-855

Prepared in cooperation with the  
Nevada Operations Office  
U.S. Department of Energy  
(Interagency Agreement DE-AI08-78ET44802)

Denver, Colorado  
1983



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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## CONVERSION TABLE

For those readers who prefer to use inch-pound rather than metric units, conversion factors for the terms used in this report are listed below:

<i>Metric unit</i>	<i>Multiply by</i>	<i>To obtain inch-pound unit</i>
millimeter (mm)	$3.937 \times 10^{-2}$	inch
gram per cubic centimeter	62.43	pound per cubic foot
kilometer	$6.214 \times 10^{-1}$	mile
meter (m)	3.281	foot
degree Celsius	$1.8^{\circ}\text{C} + 32$	degree Fahrenheit
meter per day	3.281	foot per day
milligram per liter	<sup>1</sup> 1.0	part per million
liter per second (L/s)	$1.585 \times 10^{-1}$	gallon per minute
liter (L)	$2.642 \times 10^{-1}$	gallon

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<sup>1</sup>Approximate.

*National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD)*--a geodetic datum derived from a general adjustment of the first-order level nets of both the United States and Canada, formerly called Mean Sea Level; it will be referred to as sea level in this report.

GEOHYDROLOGIC DATA FOR TEST WELL UE-25b#1,  
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By D. H. Lobmeyer, M. S. Whitfield, Jr., R. G. Lahoud,  
and Laura Bruckheimer

ABSTRACT

This report presents data collected to determine the hydraulic characteristics of rocks penetrated in test well UE-25b#1. This well is one of a series of test wells drilled in and near the southwestern part of the Nevada Test Site in a program conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy. These investigations are part of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations to identify suitable sites for storage of high-level radioactive wastes. Data on drilling operations, lithology, core analyses, borehole geophysics, hydrologic monitoring, hydraulic testing, and ground-water chemistry for test well UE-25b#1 are contained in this report.

## INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Geological Survey has been conducting investigations at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, to evaluate the hydrologic and geologic suitability of this site for storing high-level nuclear waste in an underground mined repository. The investigations are part of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Storage Investigations being conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Operations Office. Test drilling has been a principal method of investigation. This report presents geohydrologic and drill-hole data from hydrologic test well UE-25b#1. All data tables presented were compiled by the authors except where otherwise noted.

Test well UE-25b#1 is located in Nye County, Nevada, approximately 145 km northwest of Las Vegas on the Nevada Test Site (fig. 1). Coordinates of the well site are Nevada Coordinate system, Central Zone N 765,244 and E 566,417. The well is situated in a major wash, which trends northwest from Fortymile Wash on the east flank of Yucca Mountain (fig. 2). The altitude of the well is 1,200.3 m above sea level. A previously drilled nearby core hole, UE-25a#1 (fig. 2), was used as an observation well during the aquifer tests. This well is 107 m south-southwest of UE-25b#1 in the wash at an altitude of 1,199 m.

## DRILLING OPERATIONS

Drilling of test well UE-25b#1 was started April 3, 1981, and completed July 31, 1981, to a total depth of 1,220 m. Drilling was performed by rotary drill with air-foam as the circulating medium. A hole 222 mm in diameter was originally drilled to 579 m. The first episode of testing was conducted at this depth. The hole was subsequently enlarged, cased and deepened. Construction data for the completed test well are shown in figure 3.

The second episode of testing was performed shortly after completion to a total depth of 1,220 m. A third testing episode, using packers to determine the vertical head for the four most productive zones, was conducted June 8 and 9, 1982. A graphic summary of the time required to drill this well is given in figure 4.

## LITHOLOGIC SAMPLING AND WELL LOGGING

### Lithologic Log

The rocks penetrated in test well UE-25b#1 are of volcanic and volcanic-clastic origin. Lithologic descriptions from drill cuttings and cores are given in table 1. Ash-flow tuffs are the predominant rock type in this section. Thin beds of air-fall reworked bedded tuffs separate many of the ash-flow units. The tuffs have various degrees of welding and induration (fig. 5).

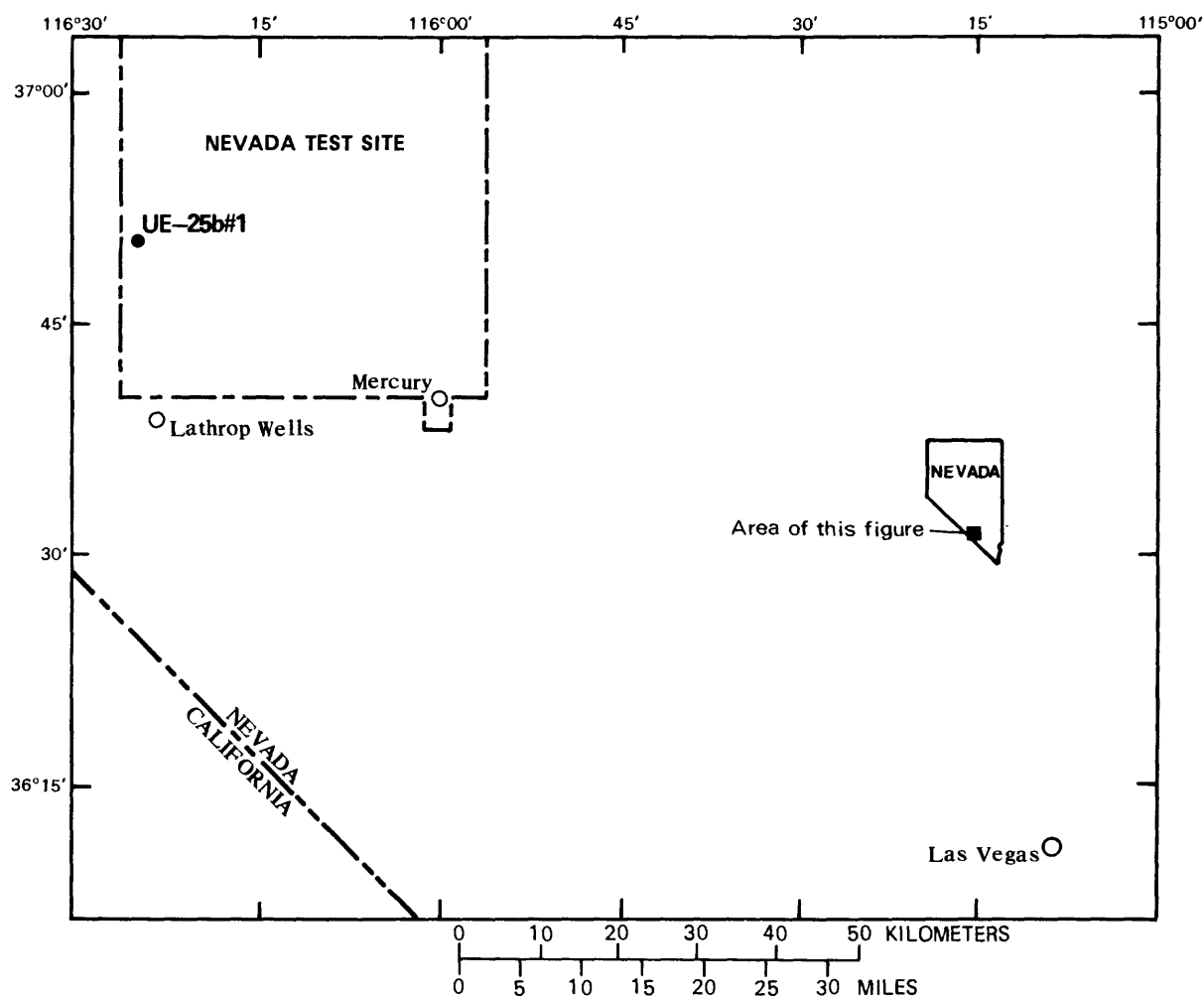


Figure 1.--Location of test well UE-25b#1 in southern Nevada.



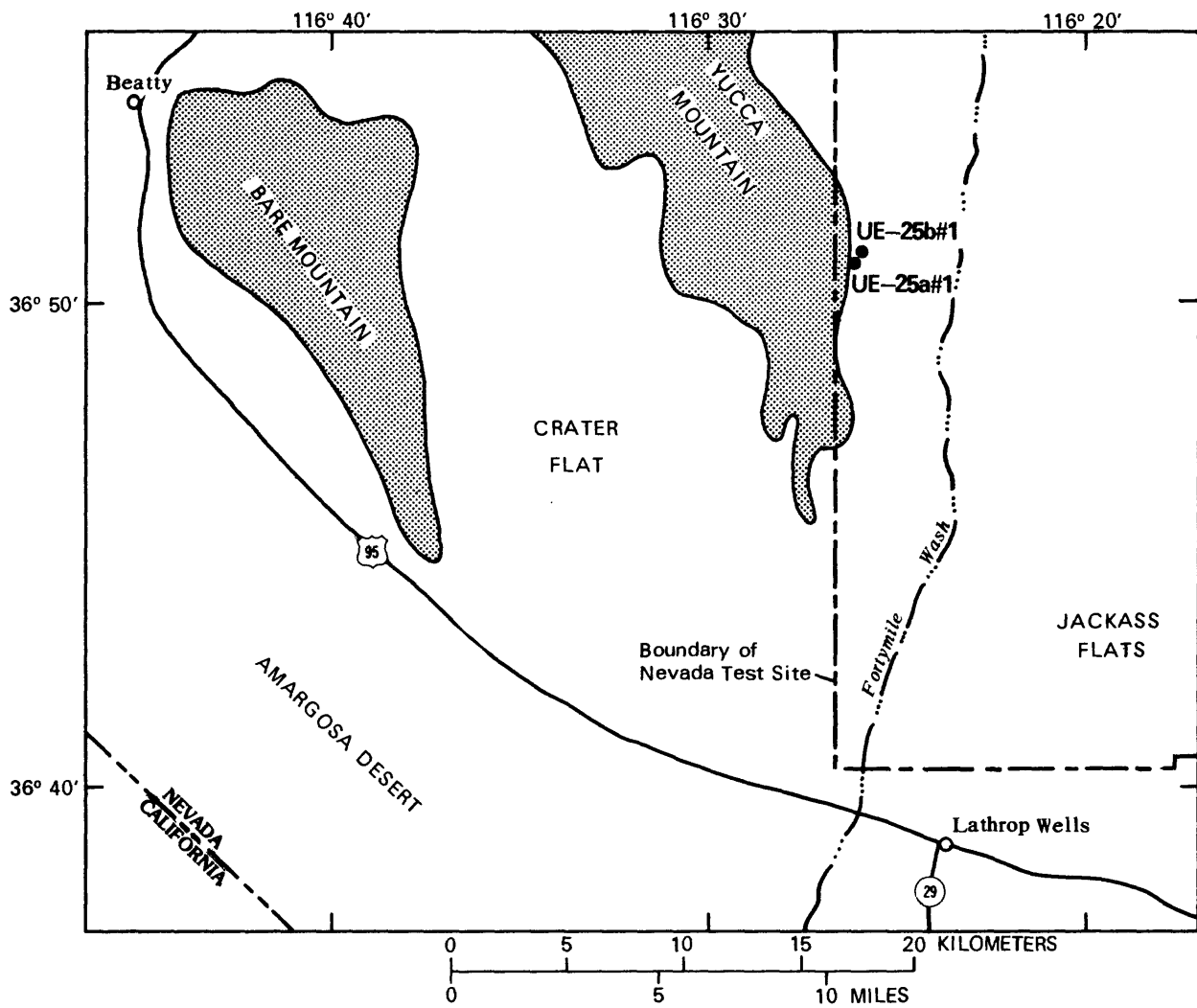


Figure 2.--Geographic features in the vicinity of test well UE-25b#1.

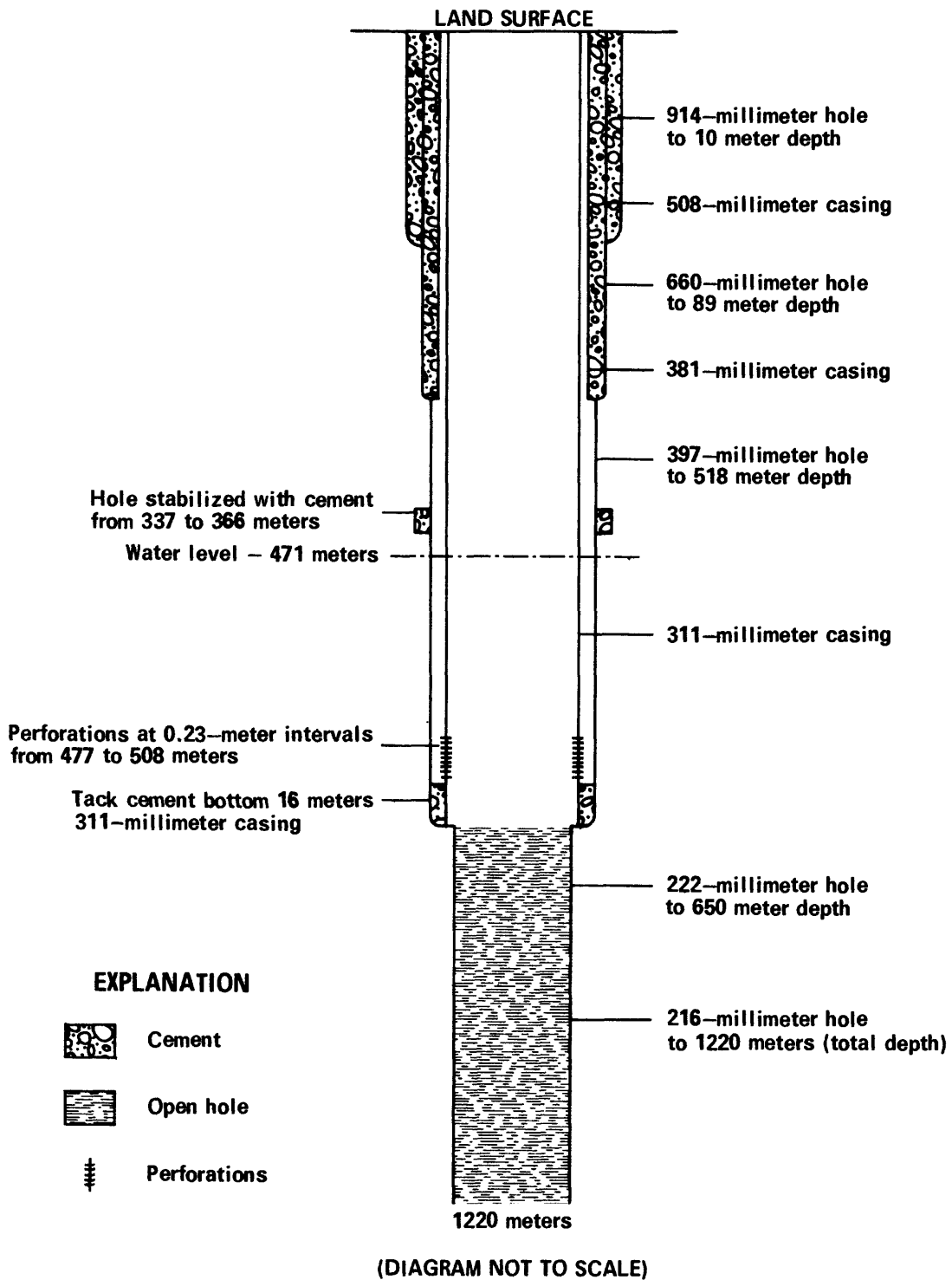


Figure 3.--Construction of test well UE-25b#1.

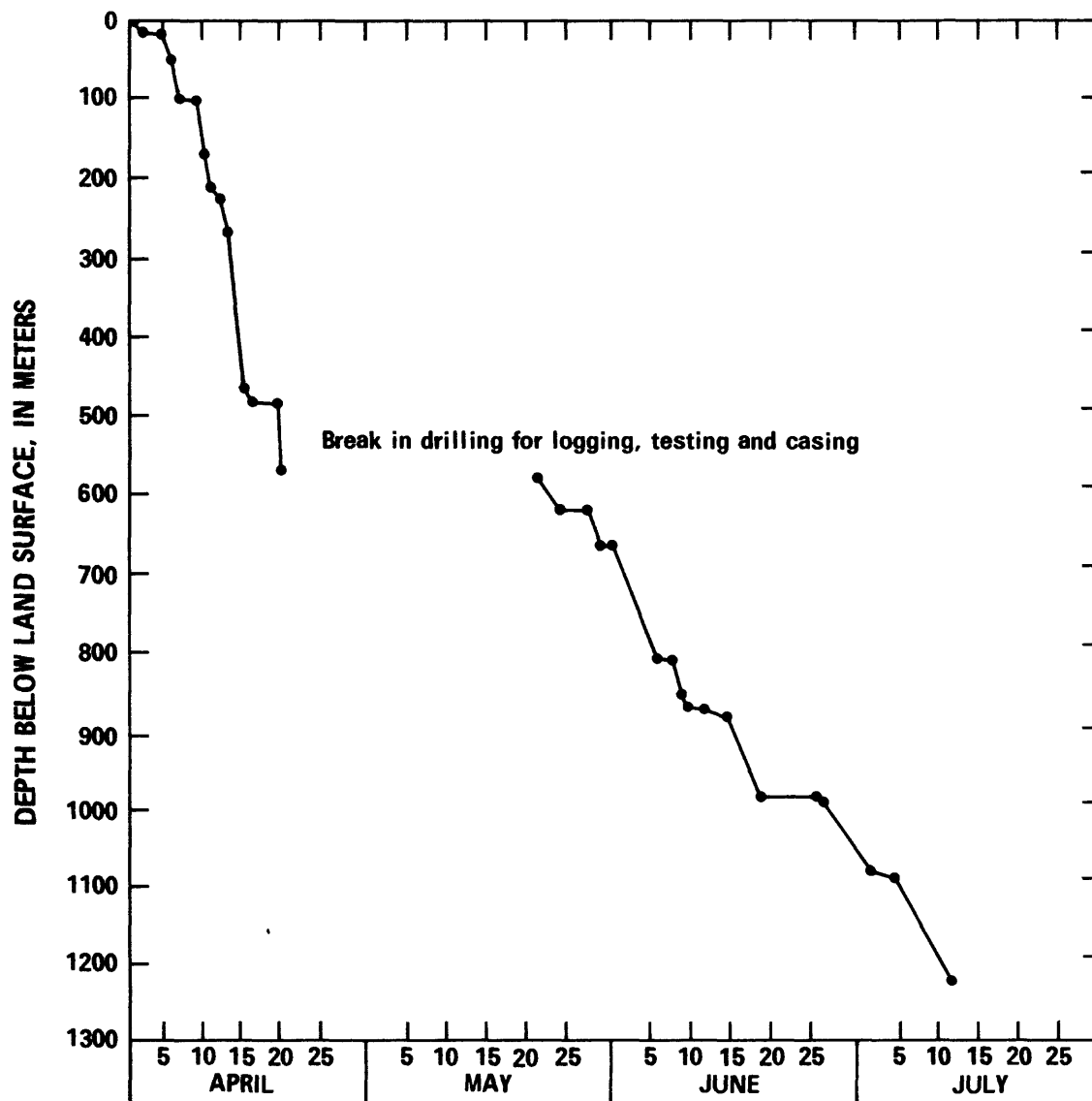


Figure 4.--Drilling time for test well UE-25b#1.

Table 1.--*Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1*

[Color designations are from the Rock Color Chart (Goddard and others, 1948); modified from R. W. Spengler, U.S. Geological Survey, written commun., 1983, and oral commun., 1983]

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Alluvium		
Gravel, composed of fragments of Tiva Canyon and Yucca Mountain Members of Paintbrush Tuff, sub-angular to subrounded, few fragments coated with caliche.	45.7	45.7
Paintbrush Tuff		
Tiva Canyon Member		
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-red, densely welded; grayish-red pumice; 1-2 percent phenocrysts.	18.3	64.0
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, partially to non-welded; pale-yellowish-brown pumice, vitric, less than 1 percent phenocrysts.	9.1	73.1
Pah Canyon Member		
Tuff, ash-flow, moderate-reddish-orange, pale-reddish-brown, nonwelded, vitric, grayish-orange pumice, vitric, less than 1 percent phenocrysts.	6.1	79.2
Bedded tuff (unnamed)		
Tuff, bedded/reworked, grayish-yellow, vitric and devitrified, rich in pumice.	4.6	83.8
Topopah Spring Member		
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-red, densely welded (vitrophyre).	1.5	85.3
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-red, densely welded, devitrified; blackish-red pumice, devitrified; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite, pyroxene) (quartz latitic caprock).	3.1	88.4

Table 1.--Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Paintbrush Tuff--Continued		
Topopah Spring Member--Continued		
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-red, light-brown, densely welded, devitrified; moderate-reddish-orange pumice, devitrified; 2-3 percent phenocrysts; Core samples collected from 164.6 to 169.5, 170.7 to 178.0, 178.0 to 182.6, 222.5 to 224.6, 224.6 to 225.6, and 225.6 to 227.1 m; samples collected from 170.7 to 178.0 m occur in a lithophysal zone.	306.3	394.7
Tuff, ash-flow, black, densely welded, vitric (vitrophyre).	10.7	405.4
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, moderately to partially welded, vitric; moderate-brown pumice, vitric; abundant black glass shards.	6.1	411.5
Bedded tuff (unnamed)		
Tuff, bedded/reworked, dark-yellowish-orange, altered, abundant medium-dark-gray rhyolite lithic fragments.	10.7	422.2
Rhyolite lava and tuffs of Calico Hills (undivided)		
Tuffaceous beds of Calico Hills (informal usage)		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, grayish-orange, yellowish-orange, and yellowish-gray, nonwelded, zeolitized; pumice, grayish-yellow and yellowish-gray, zeolitized; commonly 1-3 cm; 1-3 percent phenocrysts; about 5 percent brownish-gray and medium-gray volcanic lithic fragments, rhyolitic; commonly 1-4 cm (core collected from 478.5 to 484.9 m, recovered 6.4 m).	138.7	560.8
Tuff, bedded, ash-fall(?), identified on density log and downhole television camera.	8.8	569.7
Crater Flat Tuff		
Prow Pass Member		
Tuff, ash-flow, moderate-reddish-orange, nonwelded to partially welded, zeolitized.	8.2	577.9

Table 1.--*Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1*--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued		
Prow Pass Member--Continued		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brownish-gray, partially welded, devitrified; pumice, very light gray to medium-dark-gray, 5-40 mm, devitrified; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); 1-2 percent grayish-red mudstone and dark-gray rhyolitic lithic fragments, commonly less than 2 cm.	2.6	580.5
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, partially welded, devitrified; light-gray, light-brownish-gray pumice, 5-40 mm, devitrified; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); less than 2 percent moderate-red mudstone lithic fragments, commonly less than 1 cm.	2.3	582.8
Tuff, ash-flow, light-gray, medium-light-gray, light-brownish-gray, light-olive-gray, partially welded; pumice, commonly white, very light gray, pinkish-gray, with vapor phase crystallization and devitrified, ranges from 2 to 60 mm; 5 to 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite); sparse moderate-red and brownish-gray mudstone and rhyolitic lithic fragments, commonly less than 1 cm.	18.2	601.0
Tuff, ash-flow, light-red and light-brownish-gray (mottled), partially to moderately welded, devitrified; pumice pale-yellowish-orange, light-red, light-gray, devitrified, 2-40 mm; 5-10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); sparse moderate-red and moderate-brown mudstone lithic fragments, 3-10 mm; interval indicates an increase in near-vertical, iron-stained fractures.	4.6	605.6
Tuff, ash-flow, light-red, moderate-red, and pale-reddish-brown (mottled in a few places), grades from moderate to partial welding (moderately welded from 605.6 to about 614.0 m), devitrified; pumice, moderate-orange-pink to moderate-red, devitrified, commonly ranges from 2 to 20 mm, as large as 50 mm; 5-10 percent phenocrysts, (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite, sparse orthopyroxene(?) pseudomorphs); 2-3 percent moderate-red and grayish-red mudstone lithic fragments, 5-30 mm in size; interval contains several prominent fractures at 612.3,		

Table 1.--*Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1*--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued		
Prow Pass Member--Continued		
613.7, 617.5, and 618.0 m, fractures are commonly high angle and iron stained, some coated with MnO <sub>2</sub> ; staining extends 1-2 cm outward from fracture face.	17.6	623.2
Tuff, ash-flow, moderate-red, light-red, and yellowish-gray (upper 2.1 m mottled), partially welded to non-welded, devitrified (slightly argillic); pumice, yellowish-gray, light-red, and moderate pink, devitrified (zeolitized), 5-30 mm; 5-10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite, sparse orthopyroxene(?) pseudomorphs); 2-5 percent moderate-red mudstone lithic fragments, commonly 2-10 mm.	8.0	631.2
Tuff, ash-flow, moderate-pink and grayish-yellow (mottled), nonwelded, devitrified (some vapor phase crystallization), partially zeolitized; pumice, moderate-pink, grayish-yellow, devitrified (vapor phase crystallization), 5-30 mm; 5-10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); sparse moderate-reddish-brown mudstone and grayish-red rhyolitic lithic fragments, commonly 5-20 mm; near-vertical fault, containing breccia extends from 632.2 to 633.0 m; breccia contains vitrophyre fragments from 633.5 to 633.7 m.	7.3	638.5
Tuff, ash-flow, moderate-pink, very pale orange, moderate-orange-pink, partially welded, devitrified; pumice, grayish-orange-pink, moderate-pink, light-red, and grayish-yellow, devitrified, commonly 2-30 mm; 5-10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); 3-5 percent moderate-reddish-brown and grayish-brown rhyolite lithic fragments, lithics commonly 5-30 mm; fault breccia cuts core from 638.8 to 639.5 m.	10.2	648.7
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, grayish-orange-pink, and light-red, partially welded, devitrified (slightly zeolitized and silicified); pumice, moderate-orange-pink, grayish-orange, and grayish-yellow, commonly 5-30 mm, devitrified; 10-15 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); 1-3 percent moderate-reddish-brown and grayish-red mudstone lithic fragments (rare grayish-red rhyolitic lithics), 5-30 mm.	2.0	650.7

Table 1.--*Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1--Continued*

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued		
Prow Pass Member--Continued		
Tuff, ash-flow, pale-yellowish-brown, moderate-yellow-brown, light-brown, pale-brown, moderate-red, light-olive-gray, and dark-greenish-gray, partially to moderately welded, devitrified (partially to moderately silicified); pumice, grayish-yellow, greenish-gray, yellow-gray, pale-olive, and medium-gray, some vitric and silicified, commonly 5-30 mm; 5 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); rare moderate-reddish-brown mudstone lithic fragments.	16.1	666.8
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-orange, partially to moderately welded, devitrified (slightly silicified); pumice, grayish-yellow, grayish-orange-pink, grayish-orange, light-brown, devitrified, slightly silicified, commonly 5-20 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts [quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite, rare orthopyroxene(?)]; 1-3 percent moderate-reddish-brown mudstone and brownish-gray rhyolitic lithic fragments, commonly 5-30 mm; upper and lower contacts gradational.	1.4	668.2
Tuff, ash-flow, pale-yellowish-brown, greenish-gray, dark-greenish-gray, light-olive-gray, partially to moderately welded, devitrified, moderately to highly silicified and zeolitized; pumice, grayish-orange, moderate-brown, moderate-yellow-green, dark-greenish-gray, devitrified, silicified, zeolitized, 5-30 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); 1-2 percent moderate-reddish-brown, moderate-red rhyolite and mudstone lithic fragments, commonly 5-30 mm, as large as 60 mm; lower contact gradational.	11.6	679.8
Tuff, ash-flow, pale-yellowish-brown, partially welded, devitrified (upper 4.9 m slightly silicified); pumice, pale-yellowish-orange, grayish-orange, grayish-yellow, dark-yellowish-orange, commonly 5-20 cm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); 2-3 percent light-brown dusky-red, moderate-reddish-brown, greenish-gray, light-brownish-gray rhyolitic and mudstone lithic fragments (rhyolite is the dominant); lower contact gradational.	13.6	693.4



Table 1.--Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued		
Prow Pass Member--Continued		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-olive-gray, mottled moderate-orange-pink to pale-reddish-brown, nonwelded, devitrified, zeolitized; pumice, pale-greenish-yellow, grayish-orange, moderate-orange-pink, yellowish-gray, and pale-yellowish-orange, devitrified, commonly 1-3 cm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, rare biotite); 1-3 percent pale-reddish-brown, moderate-reddish-brown and brownish-gray rhyolitic and mudstone lithic fragments, commonly 5-20 mm, as large as 50 mm; lithics increase to 5-6 percent in lower 11.3 m of subunit; lowermost 2.1 m of core is stained moderate-red and contains large, rounded pumice fragments, many of which range from 2-6 cm in size.	24.6	718.0
Bedded tuff (unnamed)		
Tuff, bedded/reworked, air-fall, light-olive-gray, light-brownish-gray, moderate-red, devitrified (some beds silicified and(or) zeolitized); beds range in thickness from 0.1 to 0.4 m; both gradational and abrupt contacts present; bedding inclined from 5° to 8° relative to core axis, basal contact inclined 19°.	1.7	719.7
Bullfrog Member		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, partially welded, devitrified; pumice, light-brown and moderate-red, commonly 5-20 mm, devitrified; 10-15 percent phenocrysts (quartz, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite); rare moderate-reddish-brown and dark-gray mudstone and rhyolitic lithic fragments, commonly 5-20 mm.	11.5	731.2
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-orange-pink, partially welded, vapor phase crystallization; pumice, pale-red, pale-yellowish-brown, light-brown, commonly 5-20 mm, as large as 60 mm, vapor phase; 10-15 percent phenocrysts (quartz, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite); rare light-brown and grayish-orange-pink rhyolitic lithic fragments; lower contact gradational.	3.0	734.2

Table 1.--*Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1--Continued*

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued		
Bullfrog Member--Continued		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-gray and light-brownish-gray, partially welded, vapor phase crystallization; pumice, light-brownish-gray, and medium-light-gray, commonly 5-30 mm, vapor phase crystallization; 10-15 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); rare (less than 1 percent) brownish-gray rhyolitic and mudstone lithic fragments, commonly 5-15 mm; lower contact gradational.	53.2	787.4
Tuff, ash-fall(?), partially welded(?), light-gray to medium-gray; pumice flattened, subtle concentrations of phenocrysts, lower contact gradational.	4.4	791.8
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown and pale-reddish-brown, moderately welded, devitrified; pumice, light-brownish-gray, and brownish-gray, devitrified, commonly 5-20 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite; rare (less than 2 percent) brownish-gray and moderate-red rhyolite and mudstone lithic fragments, commonly 5-15 mm; lower contact gradational.	56.4	848.2
Tuff, ash-flow, moderate-orange-pink, grayish-orange, grayish-orange-pink, light-brown (lower 0.8 m pale-olive), partially welded to nonwelded, moderately zeolitic (slightly argillic); pumice, pale-reddish-brown, grayish-red, light-brown, moderate-yellow-green, and light-olive, moderately zeolitic, slightly argillic; commonly 5-25 mm, as large as 60 mm near the top of subunit; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite, hornblende); rare (less than 2 percent) brownish-gray, pale-reddish-brown and light-gray rhyolitic lithic fragments.	21.3	869.5
Bedded tuff (unnamed)		
Tuff, bedded/reworked, grayish-red, pale-olive, pale-yellowish-brown, pale-greenish-yellow, yellowish-gray, moderately zeolitized; pumice, white, pale-greenish-yellow, grayish-orange-pink, zeolitized; sparse lithics, commonly less than 5 mm; thick bedded to massive; beds commonly 0.4 to 0.9 m thick; contacts commonly gradational.	9.1	878.6

Table 1.--Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued Tram Member		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, light-brownish-gray, grayish-orange-pink, nonwelded to partially welded, zeolitic; pumice, pale-yellowish-orange, moderate-orange-pink, very pale orange, and grayish-red, zeolitized (some argillic), commonly 5-20 mm; 10-15 percent phenocrysts (quartz, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite); sparse moderate-reddish-brown, brownish-gray and greenish-gray rhyolitic to intermediate lava lithic fragments, commonly 5-25 mm, as large as 55 mm (lower 0.8 m of subunit contains abundant (40-50 percent) rhyolitic and tuffaceous lithic fragments, commonly grayish-orange-pink, brownish-gray and grayish-red, commonly 3-7 cm in length; clay content increases downward within subunit.	19.2	897.8
Tuff, ash-flow, very light gray, light-brownish-gray, partially welded, devitrified; pumice, light-brownish-gray, yellowish-gray, light-gray, and medium-light-gray, devitrified, commonly 2-30 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); 2-3 percent dusky-red, brownish-gray, grayish-red, olive-gray, and light-gray rhyolitic to intermediate lava lithics and tuffaceous lithic fragments, commonly 5-20 mm, a few as large as 40 mm.	45.2	943.0
Tuff, bedded (thinly laminated) and tuffaceous sandstone well-sorted, grayish-pink to moderate-red; laminations commonly 2-20 mm thick; laminations inclined 5° relative to core axis.	0.2	943.2
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brownish-gray, partially welded, devitrified; pumice, light-gray and light-brownish-gray, devitrified, commonly 5-20 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); 2-3 percent light-brown, pale-brown, brownish-gray rhyolitic to intermediate lava lithic fragments, commonly 4-20 mm.	17.6	960.8
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown to pale-yellowish-brown, moderately welded, devitrified; pumice, grayish-orange-pink, pale-yellowish-brown, light-brownish-gray, devitrified, commonly 5-30 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); 1-2 percent brownish-gray, moderate-brown, pale-brown		

Table 1.--*Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1*--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued		
Tram Member--Continued		
rhyolitic to intermediate lava and tuffaceous lithic fragments, commonly 5-30 mm; upper and lower contacts gradational.	5.7	966.5
Tuff, ash-flow, grayish-red, medium-dark-gray, dark-gray, and pale-brown, moderately welded, devitrified (slightly to moderately silicified) pumice, grayish-red, pale-brown, and pale-yellow-brown, devitrified (some argillic), commonly 5-20 mm; 2-3 percent moderate-brown, brownish-gray, rhyolitic to intermediate lava and tuffaceous lithic fragments, commonly 5-20 mm, as large as 60 mm; upper and lower contacts gradational.	21.6	988.1
Tuff, ash-flow, medium-light-gray to medium-dark-gray, moderately to partially welded, devitrified; pumice, very light gray, light-brownish-gray, grayish-yellow, moderate-pink pumice, argillic, commonly 5-20 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); 3-10 percent grayish-red, pale-brown, brownish-gray, and medium-dark-gray rhyolitic lava and tuffaceous lithic fragments, commonly 5-30 mm, as large as 70 mm; interval from 994.3 to 994.7 m contains 30-40 percent lithics.	16.3	1,004.4
Tuff, ash-flow, greenish-gray, light-brownish-gray, light-olive-gray, partially to moderately welded, devitrified (slightly zeolitized and argillic); pumice, light-gray, brownish-gray, light-brownish-gray and white, argillic and zeolitized, commonly 5-30 mm; 10-15 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite); 5-10 percent rhyolitic lava and tuffaceous lithic fragments, lithics commonly medium-dark-gray, brownish-gray, pale-brown, and medium-gray, commonly 5-30 mm; upper contact gradational, lower contact sharp.	19.7	1,024.2
Tuff, ash-flow, yellowish-gray, light-greenish-gray, grayish-yellow-green, pale-yellowish-green, grayish-green, light-olive, and greenish-gray, partially welded, argillic and zeolitized (has a bleached appearance); pumice, grayish-green, greenish-gray, and white, argillic and zeolitized, commonly 5-20 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase,		

Table 1.--Lithologic log for test well UE-25b#1--Continued

Stratigraphy and lithologic description	Thickness of interval (meters)	Depth to bottom of interval (meters)
Crater Flat Tuff--Continued Tram Member--Continued		
biotite); rare (less than 1 percent) finely disseminated pyrite in matrix and lithic fragments; 10-25 percent light-brownish-gray, brownish-gray, light-olive-gray, medium-light-gray, dark-gray, and greenish-gray rhyolitic to intermediate lava and tuffaceous lithic fragments, commonly 5-20 mm, rarely larger than 40 mm; clay-rich fault zone from 1,076.2 to 1,077.2, 1,078.0 to 1,078.2, and 1,080.5 to 1,081.3 m (lowermost of the three zones is completely healed).	164.8	1,189.0
Bedded tuff (unnamed)		
Tuff, bedded/reworked, dark-gray, olive-gray, yellowish-gray, greenish-gray to dark-greenish-gray, moderately to highly indurated, zeolitic, most contacts gradational, where sharp, contacts generally are inclined from 3° to 5° relative to the core axis; individual beds commonly range in thickness from 0.1 to 1.7 m; most beds appear reworked and contain few large pumice fragments; where present pumice is white, yellowish-gray, moderate-yellow, and green, argillic and zeolitized; pumice-rich intervals present from 1,189.4 to 1,189.6, 1,189.9 to 1,191.6, 1,193.0 to 1,193.4, and 1,206.5 to 1,206.6 m; lower contact gradational.	18.1	1,207.1
Lithic Ridge Tuff		
Tuff, ash-flow, light-brown, olive-gray, light-olive-gray, greenish-gray, moderately welded, devitrified (argillic and zeolitized); pumice, dark-greenish-gray, greenish-gray, and moderate-yellow-green, argillic and zeolitized, commonly 5-20 mm; 10 percent phenocrysts (quartz, sanidine, plagioclase, biotite, rare sphene); 5-10 percent dark-gray, dark-greenish-gray, and brownish-gray rhyolitic to intermediate lava lithic fragments, commonly 1-4 cm.		
Total depth =	12.8	1,219.9

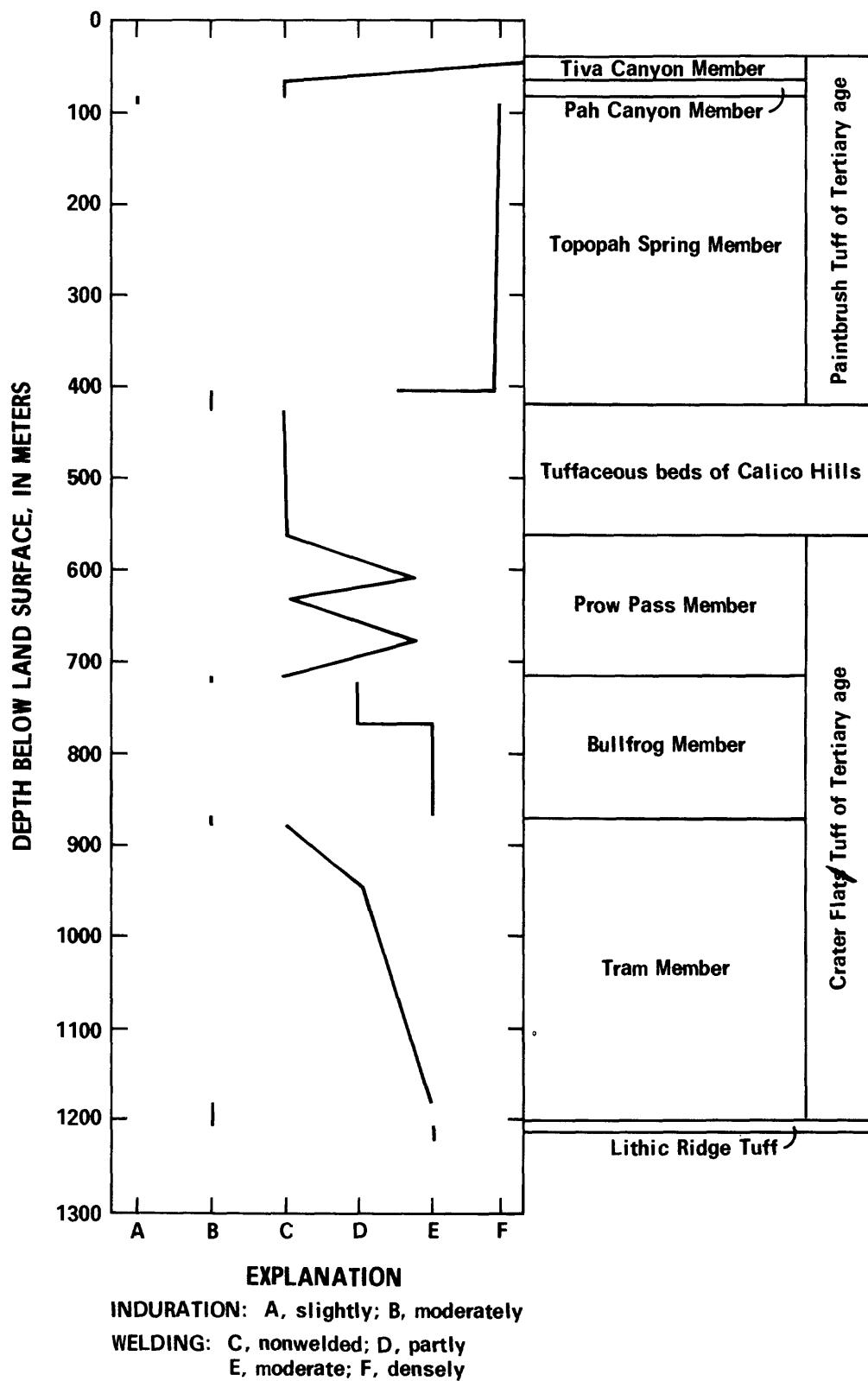


Figure 5.--Generalized distribution of welding and induration of tuffs penetrated by test well UE-25b#1.

## Hydrologic Properties of Core Samples

Sandia National Laboratories (contractor of U.S. Department of Energy) performed tests for selected physical properties on 127 core samples from the interval 589 to 1,186 m. Distribution of matrix porosity is shown in figure 6. Physical property tests were performed by Holmes & Narver Materials Testing Laboratory (contractor of U.S. Department of Energy) on 14 core samples, including one sample from the unsaturated zone (table 2).

A log of shear fractures was compiled from examination of the cores. Shear fractures are defined as fractures showing slickensides and are used in this report to define fault zones. Some prominent fault zones and numerous smaller fault zones were identified (fig. 7). Open fractures that occur extensively in a formation are related to very permeable zones.

## Geophysical Logs

Geophysical logs of test well UE-25b#1 were made for lithological definition; correlation with logs of nearby wells; obtaining data on porosity, fractures, and permeability; obtaining fluid levels; locating casing perforations and cement; and gaging the diameter of the well. Geophysical logs were used to help select hydraulic-test intervals. A summary of geophysical logs made in this well and the intervals that were logged are shown in table 3.

Geophysical logs that can be used to identify water-yielding zones include the following: (1) Downhole televiewer, which shows zones with multiple low-angle fractures; (2) self-potential curve, which may change opposite water-yielding zones; and (3) temperature log where the gradient changes opposite water-yielding zones.

## HYDROLOGIC TESTING AND WATER SAMPLING

The types of hydraulic tests performed in test well UE-25b#1, intervals tested, duration of tests, and type of packer used are shown in table 4.

## Water Levels

Water-level observations and measurements in test well UE-25b#1 were made during drilling, during hydraulic testing, and after testing was completed. The purposes of these observations and measurements were: (1) To locate possible perched water in the unsaturated zones; (2) to determine depth at which water saturation occurs; and (3) to determine hydraulic heads in the well for specific zones.

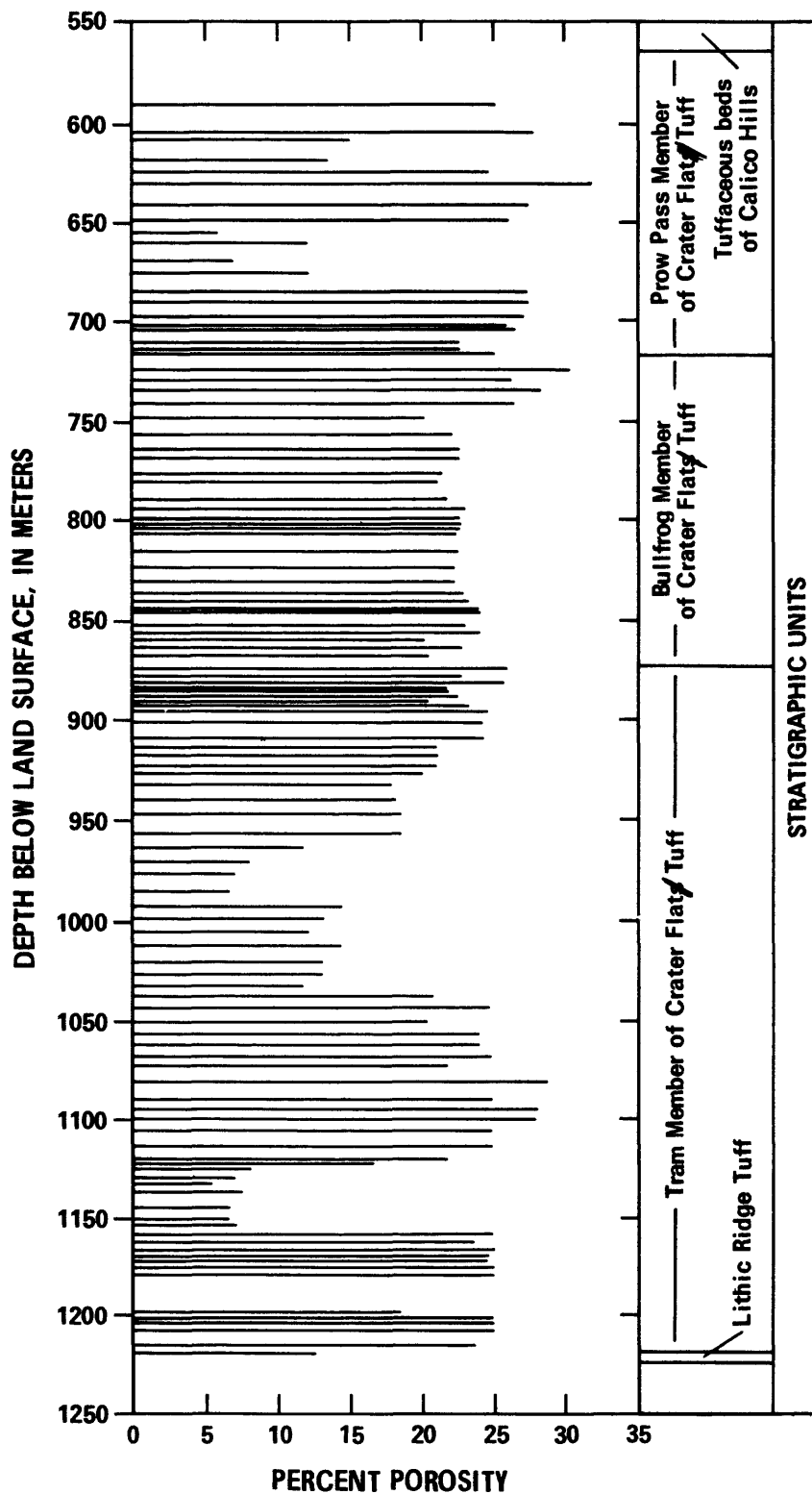


Figure 6.--Porosity as determined by mechanical testing of cores from test well UE-25b#1.



Table 2.--Results of laboratory analyses for hydrologic properties of core samples from test well UE-25b#1  
[Analyses by Holmes & Narver Materials Testing Laboratory, Inc.]

Depth (meters below land surface)	Density (grams per cubic centimeter)		Matrix porosity (percent)		Pore saturation (percent)	Natural state pore-water content (percent)		Matrix hydraulic conductivity (meters per day)		
	Natural state	Dry- bulk	Grain	From dry-bulk and grain		From helium pycnometer	Weight	Volume	Horizontal	Vertical
TOPOPAH SPRING MEMBER OF PAINTBRUSH TUFF										
1226	2.3	2.3	2.6	12	12	57	3	7	$8.3 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-6}$
TUFFACEOUS BEDS OF CALICO HILLS										
479	1.9	1.8	2.4	28	25	84	12	21	$1.7 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.7 \times 10^{-5}$
485	1.8	1.4	2.4	43	40	89	21	36	(fine cracks in core)	
PROW PASS MEMBER OF CRATER FLAT TUFF										
626	2.2	1.9	2.6	25	24	93	11	22	$6.6 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-5}$
680	2.2	2.1	2.4	14	10	60	4	6	$8.3 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-6}$
BULLFROG MEMBER OF CRATER FLAT TUFF										
753	2.2	2.0	2.6	23	23	94	10	22	$6.6 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-4}$
784	2.3	2.1	2.6	22	21	93	9	20	$6.6 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.3 \times 10^{-5}$
814	2.2	2.0	2.6	22	22	82	8	18	$5.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-5}$
844	2.2	2.0	2.6	23	23	89	9	20	$8.3 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-5}$
TRAM MEMBER OF CRATER FLAT TUFF										
924	2.3	2.1	2.6	20	19	95	8	18	$2.8 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.3 \times 10^{-5}$
949	2.3	2.1	2.6	18	19	92	7	17	$1.8 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-5}$
1,141	2.4	2.2	2.6	15	15	81	5	12	$2.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.3 \times 10^{-4}$
1,171	2.4	2.3	2.7	12	13	93	5	12	$2.8 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-5}$
1,202	2.5	2.4	2.7	11	11	82	4	9	$1.1 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.7 \times 10^{-5}$

<sup>1</sup>Core obtained from unsaturated zone.

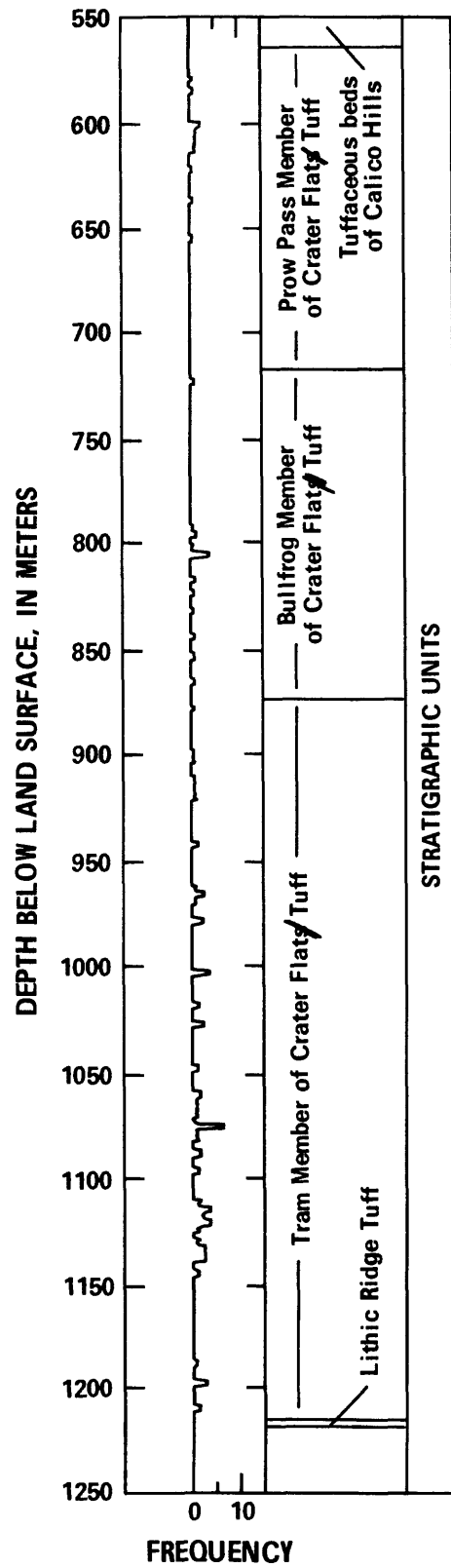


Figure 7.--Shear fractures as determined from cores, test well UE-25b#1.

Table 3.--Summary of geophysical well logs made in test well UE-25b#1

Geophysical log	Depth interval (meters)	Geophysical log	Depth interval (meters)
Acoustic	472- 573	Seisviewer	457-1,215
	503-1,218	Spectralog	0- 574
Caliper	6- 94		
	76- 364	Televiewer	0- 357
	89- 576		518- 975
Density, borehole compensated	518-1,214	Temperature	0- 575
	89- 575		
Density	457-1,219	3-D velocity	469- 574
Electric	10- 96		472- 575
	468- 575		502-1,215
	506-1,217		502-1,216
	518-1,215	Gyroscopic	0-1,204
Induction, electric	91- 576	Nuclear cement top locator	0- 90
Epithermal neutron	78- 572		325- 363
	91- 575		455- 536
	518-1,214	Nuclear annulus investigation	325- 363
Neutron	469- 575		1,069-1,190
	502-1,214		
Gamma ray	82- 576		
	487-1,214		
Geophone survey	91- 572		
	519-1,216		

Packer-injection tests of the four most productive zones in this well were performed during the third episode of testing. The water levels for the intervals tested are tabulated below:

Tested interval (meters below land surface)	Water level (meters below land surface)
546-583	471.0
585-622	471.3
789-826	471.5
848-884	471.4

Table 4.--Summary of hydrologic tests in test well UE-25b#1

[L, liters; L/s, liters per second]

Test number	Test date	Interval tested (meters)	Test duration (minutes)	Remarks
<u>First episode of testing</u>				
Injection test 1	5-09-81	514- 579	130.0	Single packer
Injection test 2	5-09-81	505- 579	70.0	Single packer
Injection test 3	5-10-81	563- 579	9.95	Single packer bypassed
Injection test 4	5-11-81	477- 579	22.0	Single packer
Injection test 5	5-12-81	491- 504	120.0	Straddle packer
Injection test 6	5-12-81	477- 491	45.0	Straddle packer
Injection test 7	5-13-81	468- 477	2.00	Straddle packer (above water level)
<u>Second episode of testing</u>				
Pumping test 1	8-03/8-07-81	471-1,220	5,760	4.8x10 <sup>6</sup> L at 14 L/s
Injection test 8	8-10-81	1,006-1,220	240	Single packer
Injection test 9	8-11-81	792-1,220	3.28	Single packer
Injection test 10	8-12-81	851- 892	3.78	Straddle packer
Injection test 11	8-13-81	820- 860	6.20	Straddle packer
Injection test 12	8-13-81	779- 820	3.32	Straddle packer
Injection test 13	8-13-81	743- 783	50.0	Straddle packer
Injection test 14	8-13-81	703- 743	120.0	Straddle packer
Injection test 15	8-14-81	581- 621	3.00	Straddle packer
Injection test 16	8-14-81	518- 545	27.35	Straddle packer
Injection test 17	8-15-81	621- 661	59.35	Straddle packer
Pumping test 2	8-18/8-27-81	471-1,220	12,960	2.8x10 <sup>7</sup> L at 36 L/s
Pumping test 3	8-29/9-01-81	471-1,220	4,320	1.5x10 <sup>6</sup> L at 36 L/s
<u>Third episode of testing</u>				
Injection test 1b	6-08-82	546- 583	120	Productive interval
Injection test 2b	6-09-82	585- 622	120	isolated to check
Injection test 3b	6-09-82	789- 826	120	for differences
Injection test 4b	6-09-82	848- 884	120	in water level.

### Borehole-Flow Survey

Borehole-flow surveys are used to measure vertical flow of water at selected intervals in the well while water is pumped into or out of the well. A slug of iodine-131 is released into the well at those intervals and is tracked past two gamma detectors to determine the velocity of the water. The velocity multiplied by the cross-sectional area determines the rate of flow in the well at a selected depth.

Two borehole-flow surveys were made in test well UE-25b#1. The first was made when the well was at a depth of 579 m. Technical problems in the well construction caused difficulty in obtaining useful data. The second survey was made in conjunction with pumping test 1, after the bottom of the casing had been cemented, and the well was at total depth. A schematic diagram of the flow survey is shown in figure 8.

### Pumping Tests

Pumping tests were made in test well UE-25b#1 after the well had been drilled to its total depth. The test interval was 471 to 1,220 m. A pump with a capacity of 15 L/s was used for the first pumping test; pumping rate was 13.4 L/s. The drawdown and recovery curves for this test are shown in figures 8 and 9, respectively. The second pumping test was made using a larger pump to cause more stress on the aquifer. A pump with a rated capacity of 32 L/s was used, pumping at rates ranging from 26.5 to 36.8 L/s. Drawdown for test 2 is shown in figure 10, and the recovery data for this test are shown in figure 11.

The third pumping test was made using the same pump as the second test; pumping rate was 35.8 L/s, the same rate as the last 2,900 minutes of test 2. Drawdown data for the third test are shown in figure 12. Since adequate recovery data were obtained in tests 1 and 2, no recovery data were collected after test 3. Water-level data for recovery tests are plotted at a different scale from that used for the drawdown plots. During tests 2 and 3, well UE-25a#1 was used as an observation well.

### Packer-Injection Tests

Packer-injection tests were performed at intervals where hole size and configuration allowed setting of inflatable packers. A slug of water was injected into the interval between two packers or between one packer and the bottom of the hole. The decline of hydraulic head with time was monitored in the isolated interval. Twenty-one tests were made on the well during three testing periods. Packer-injection test intervals and testing information are given in table 4. The ratio of remaining hydraulic head to original head, plotted against time on semilogarithmic paper, is shown in figures 13 through 28. The type of water-level measuring device, the radius of the tested interval ( $R_s$ ), and the hydraulic head above the water level ( $H$ ) also are shown. The  $r_s$  radius of the tubing in which the water level was measured was 0.031 m for all tests.

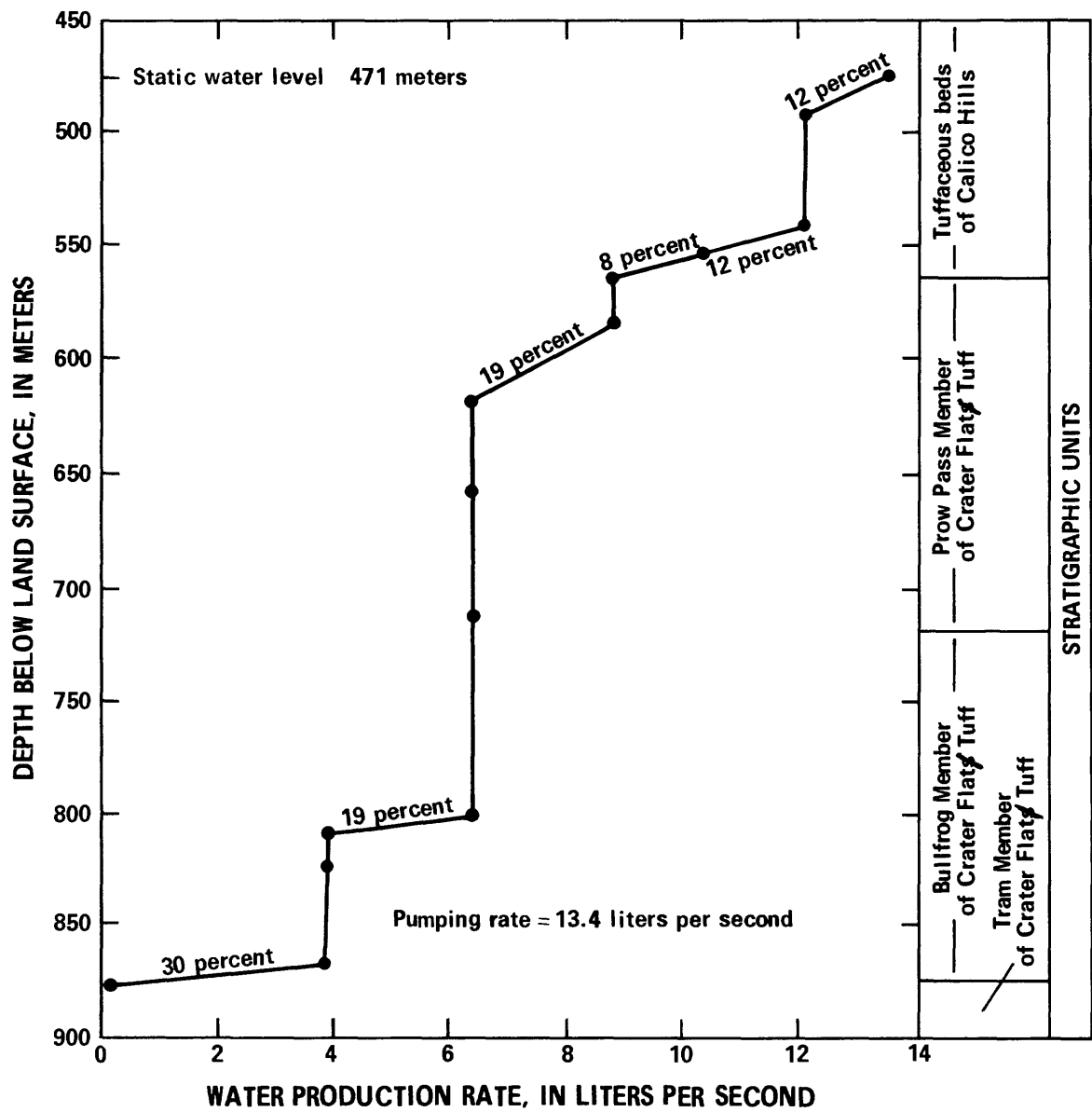


Figure 8.--Borehole-flow survey in test well UE-25b#1, showing percent of pumping rate produced by intervals.

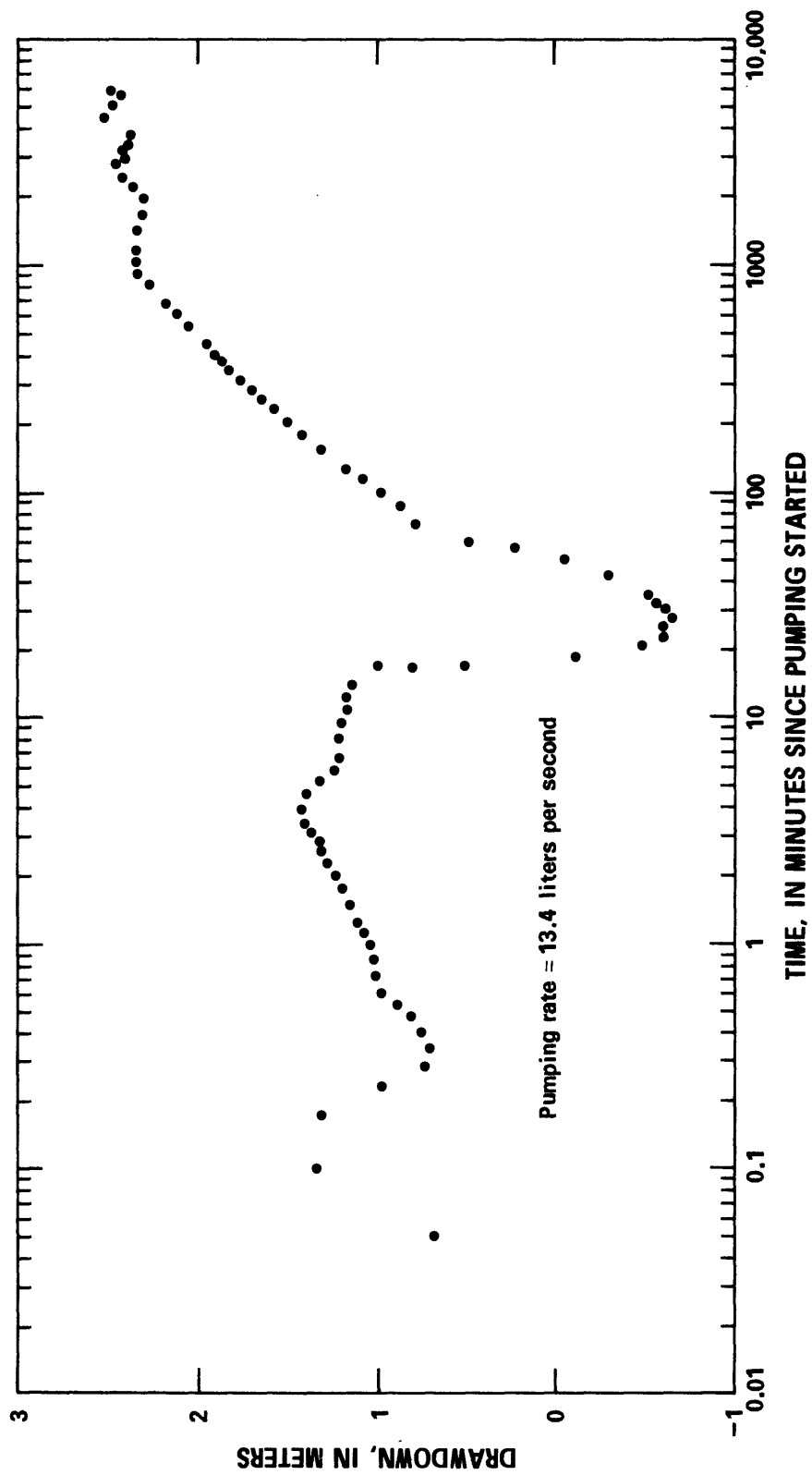


Figure 9.--Drawdown in test well UE-25b#1 during pumping test 1.

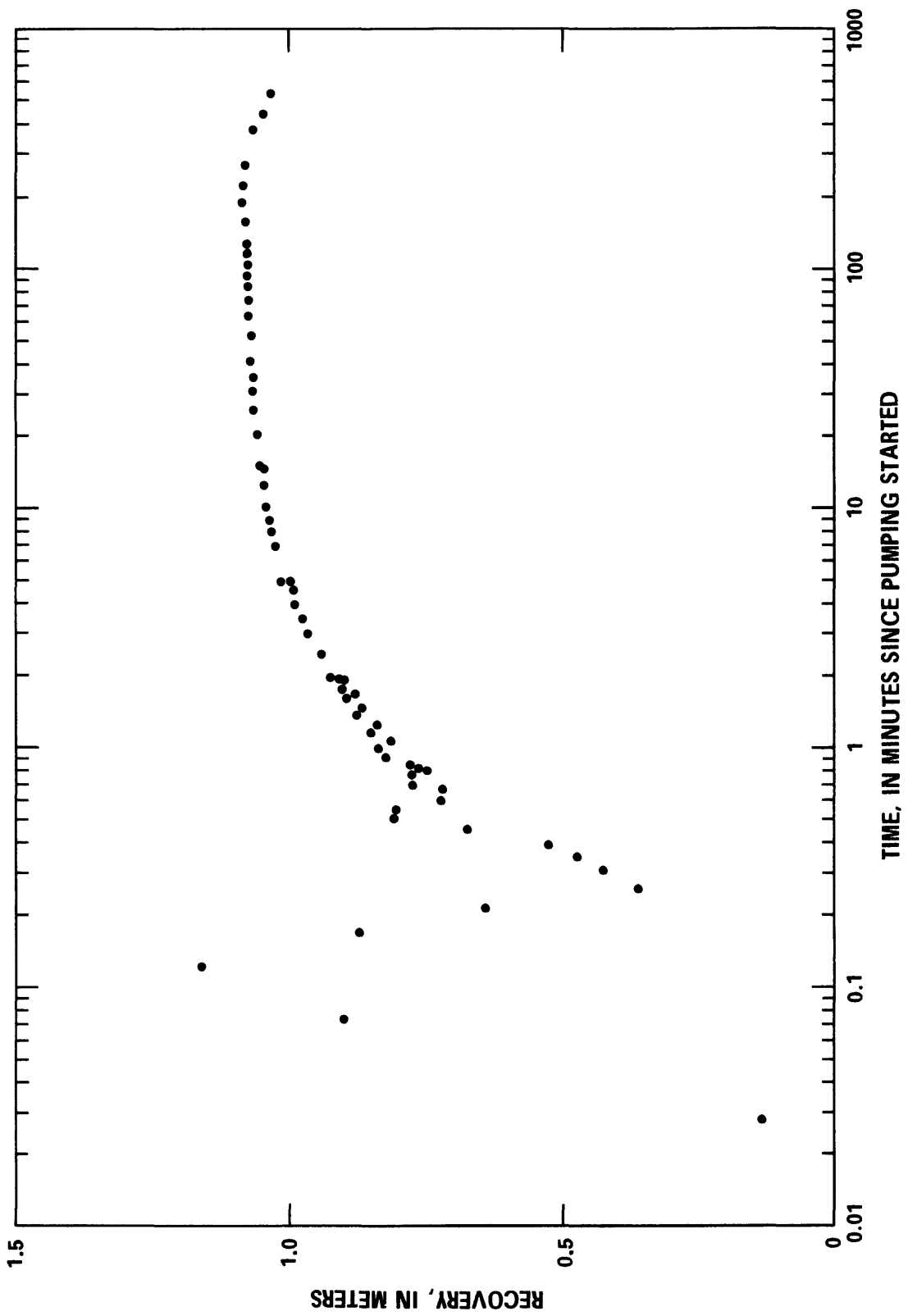


Figure 10.--Water-level recovery, pumping test 1, test well UE-25b#1.



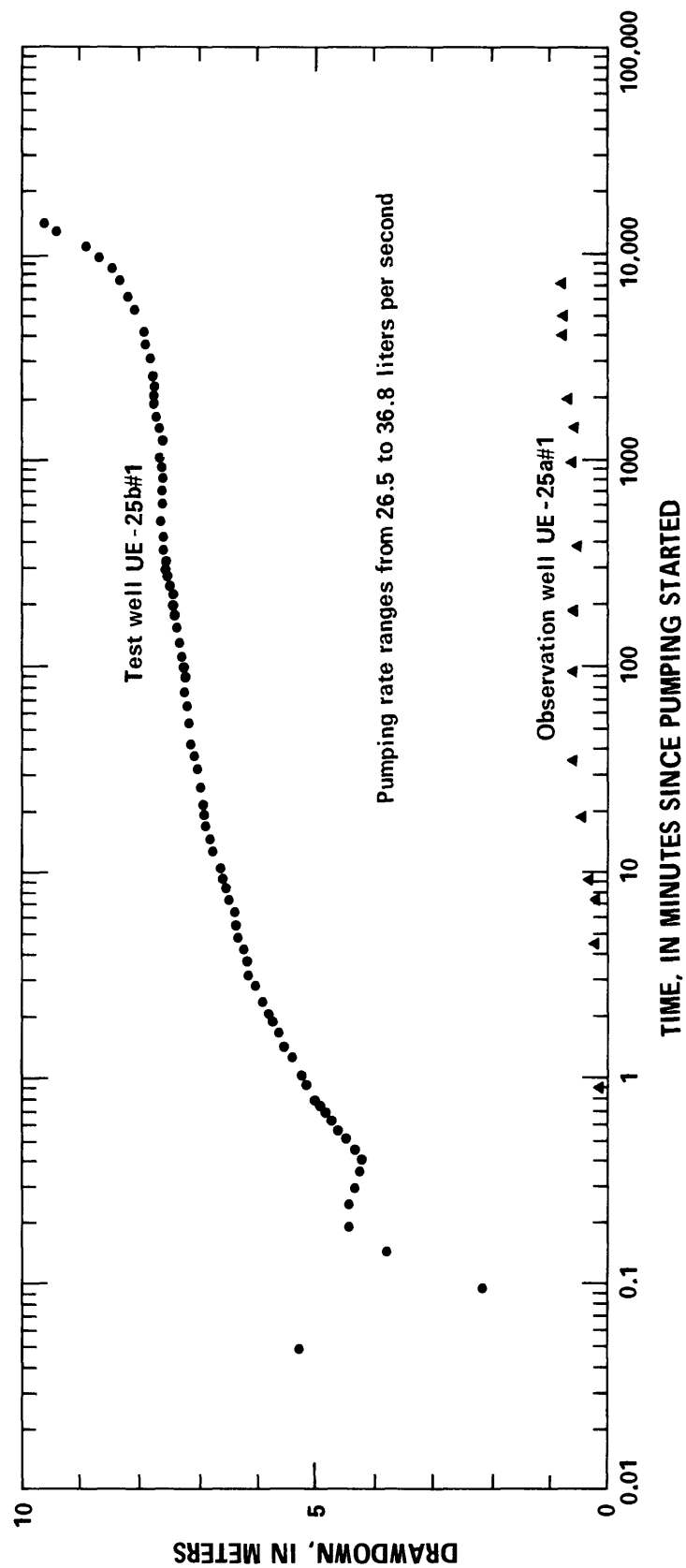


Figure 11.--Drawdown in test well UE-25b#1 and observation well UE-25a#1 during pumping test 2.

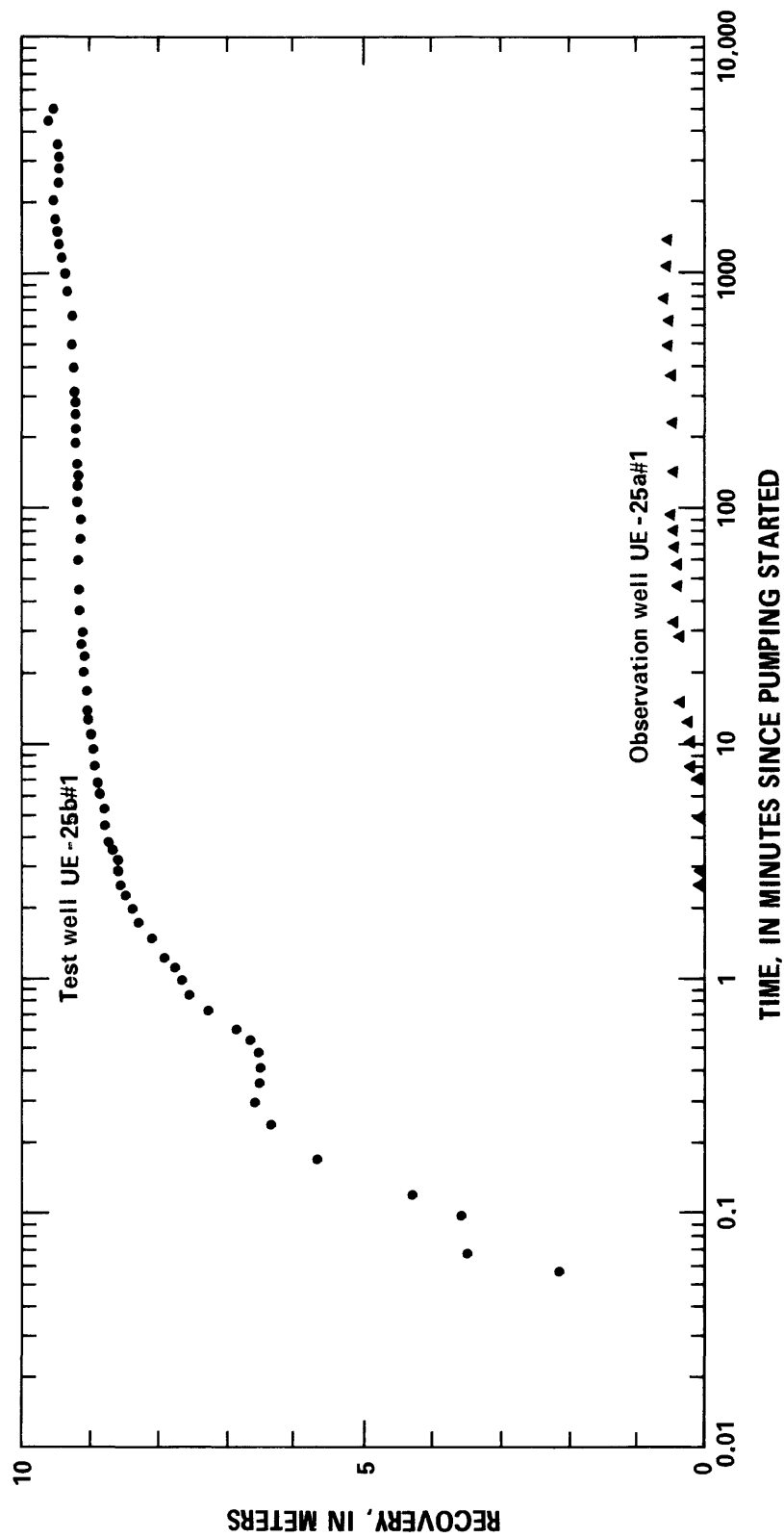


Figure 12.--Water-level recovery, pumping test 2, test well UE-25b#1 and observation well UE-25a#1.

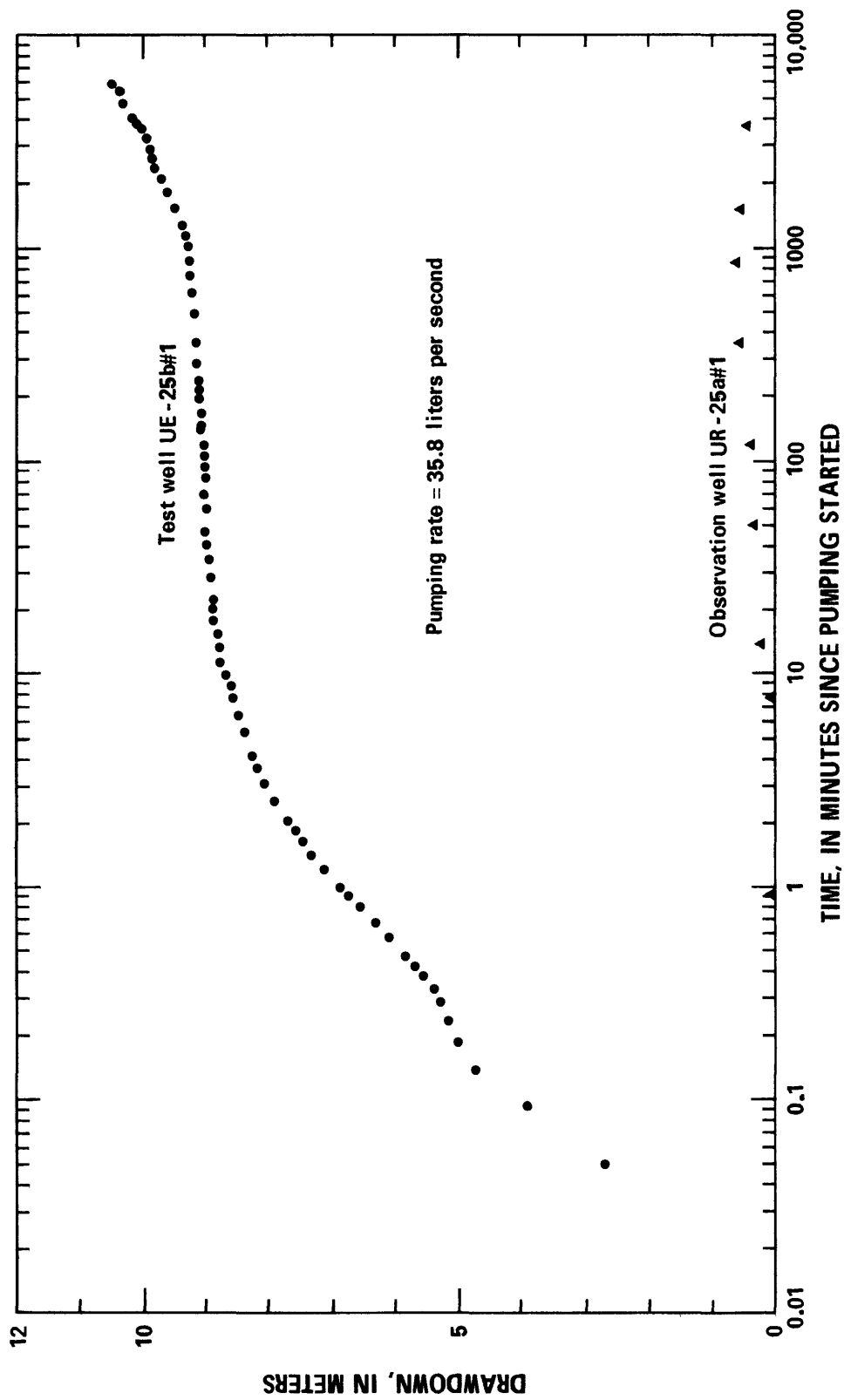


Figure 13.--Drawdown in test well UE-25b#1 and observation well UE-25a#1 during pumping test 3.

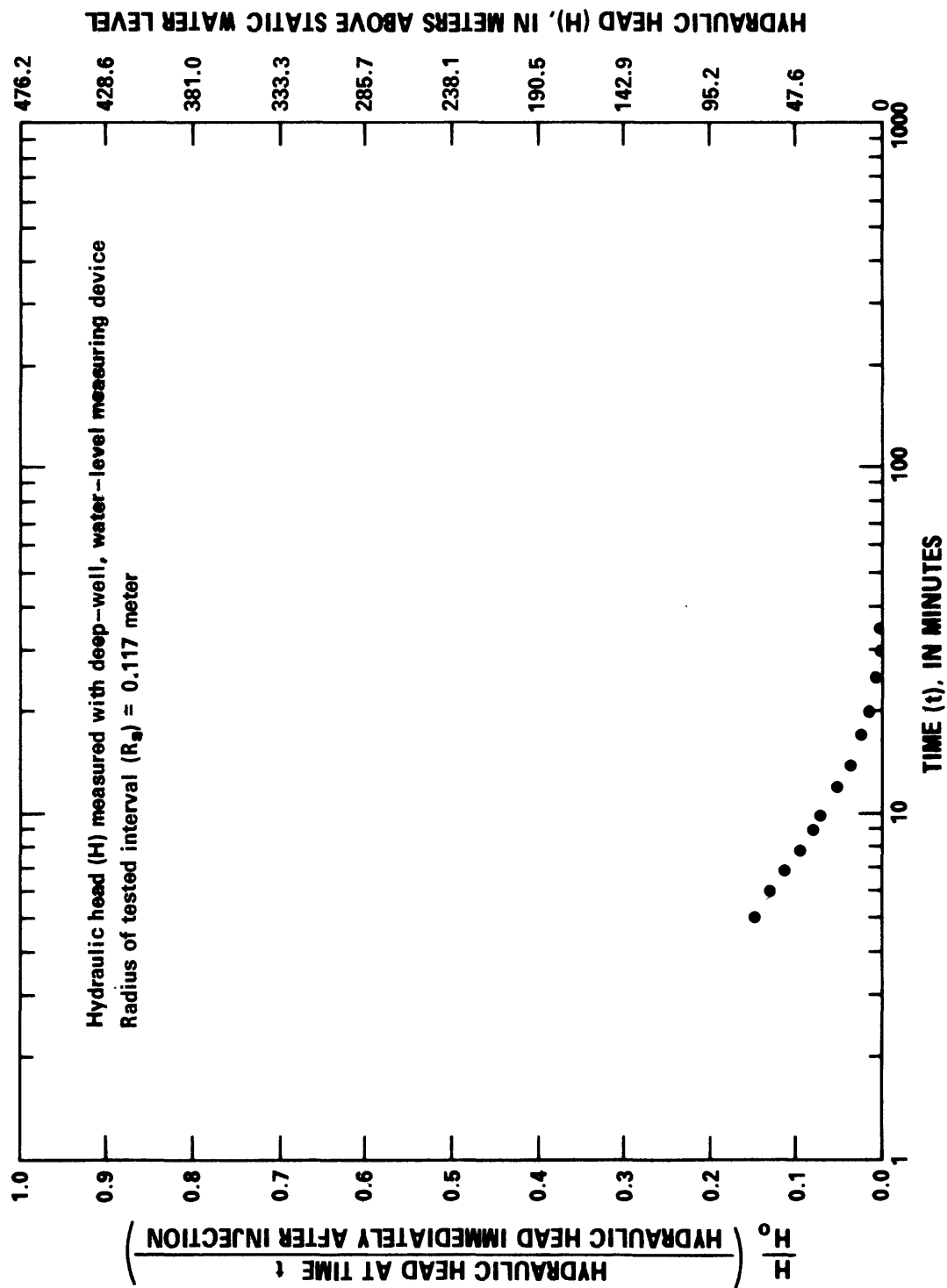


Figure 14.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 514 to 579 meters.

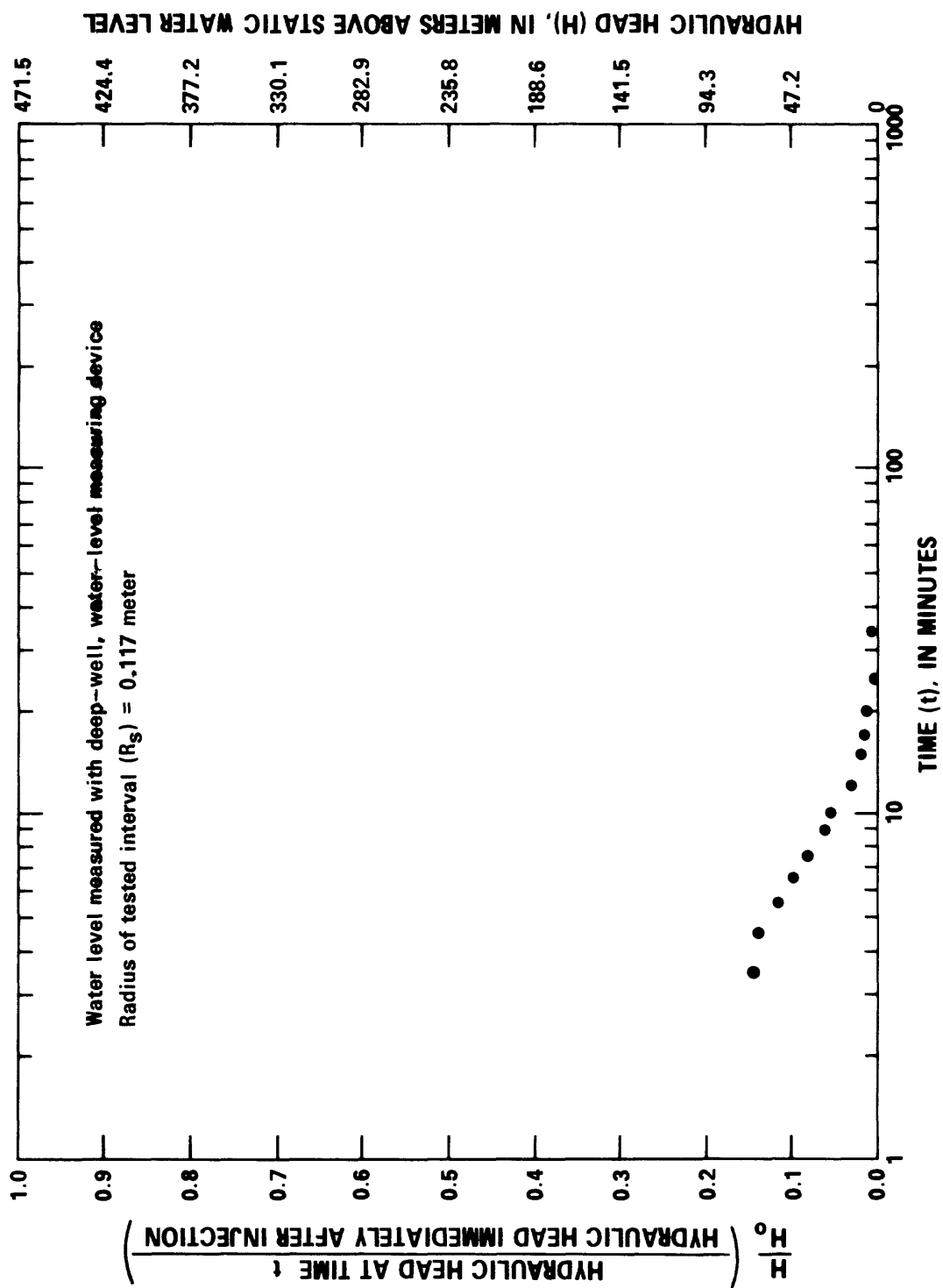


Figure 15.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 505 to 579 meters.

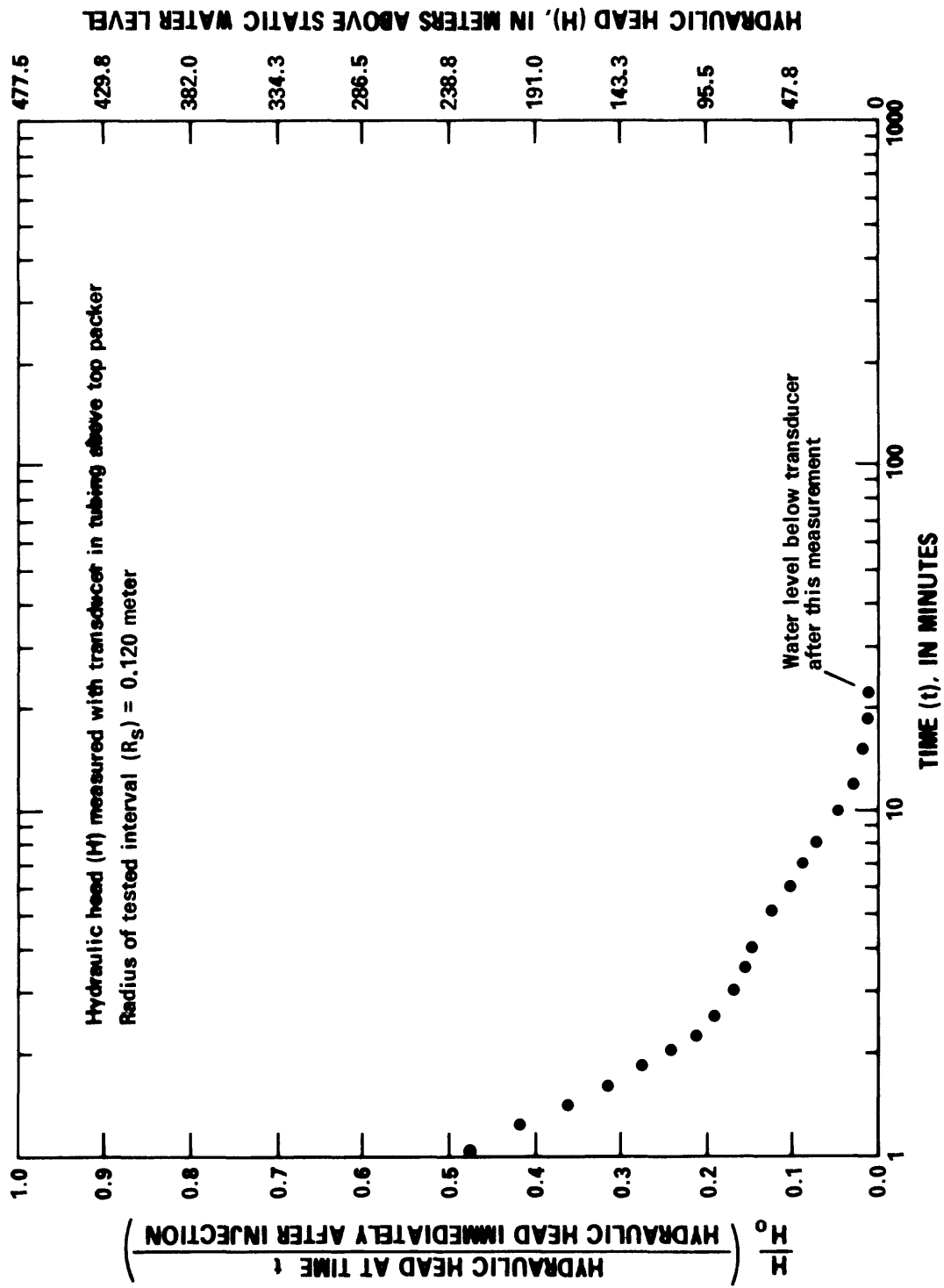


Figure 16.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 477 to 579 meters

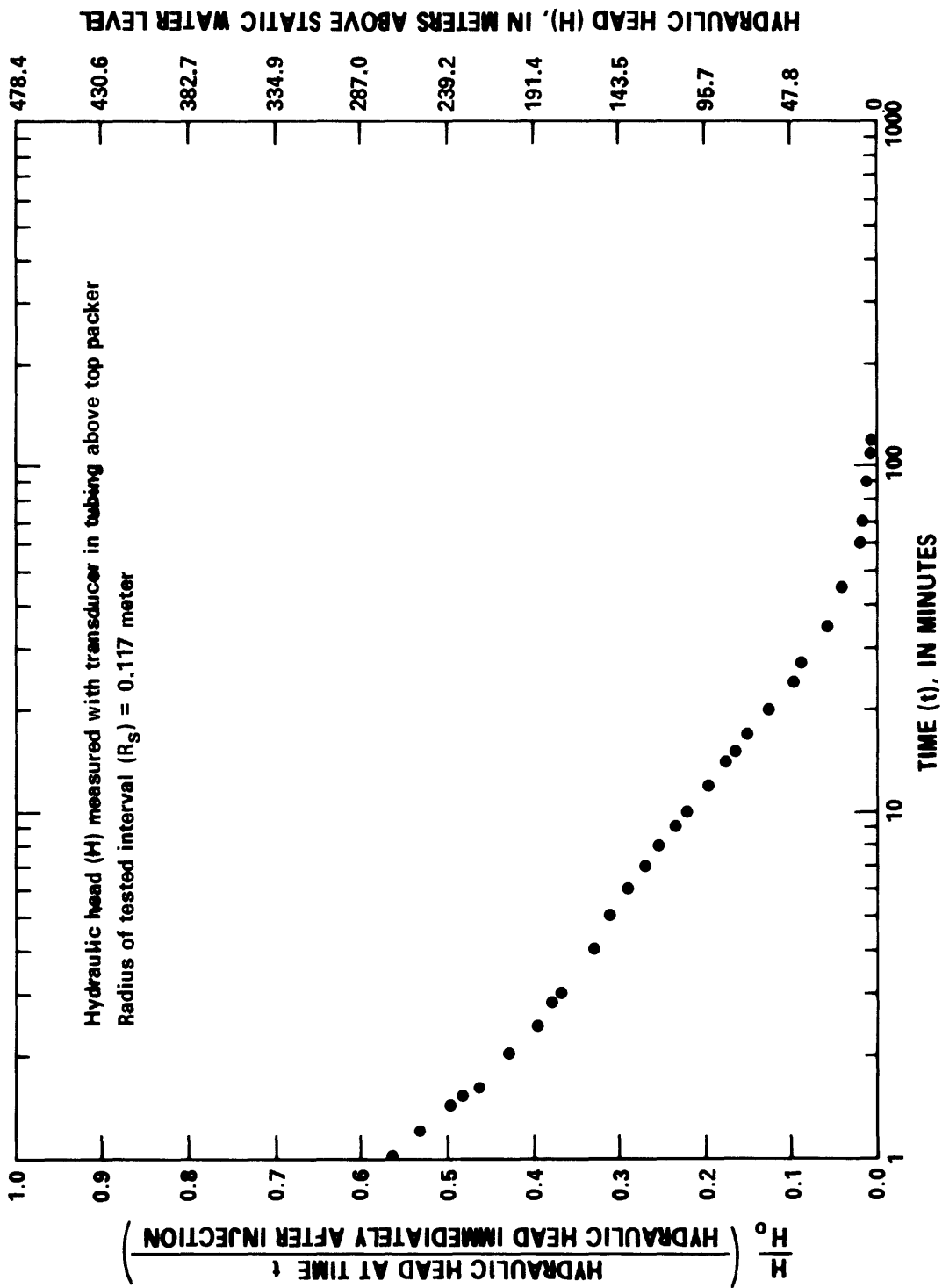


Figure 17.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 491 to 504 meters.

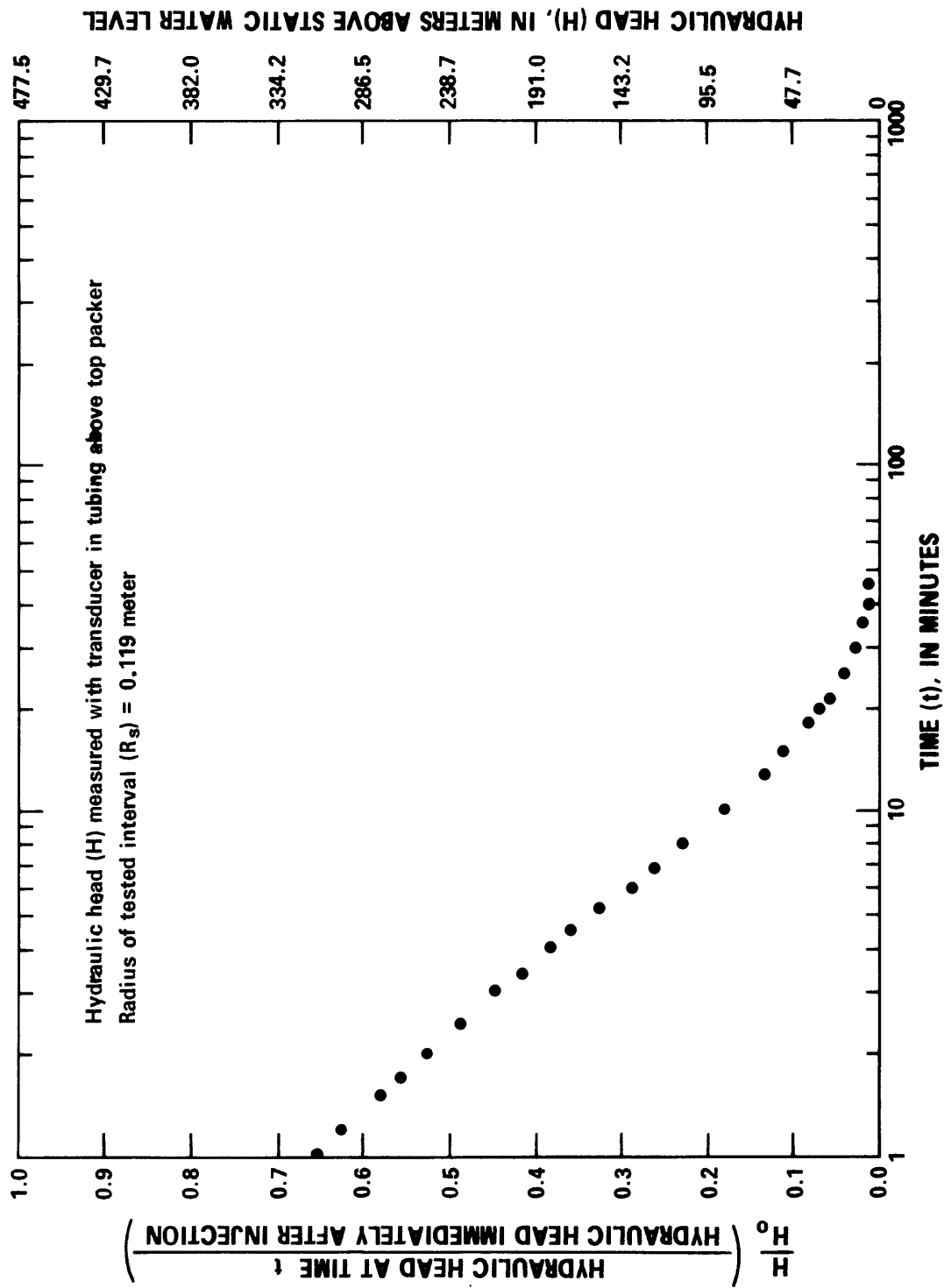


Figure 18.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 477 to 491 meters.



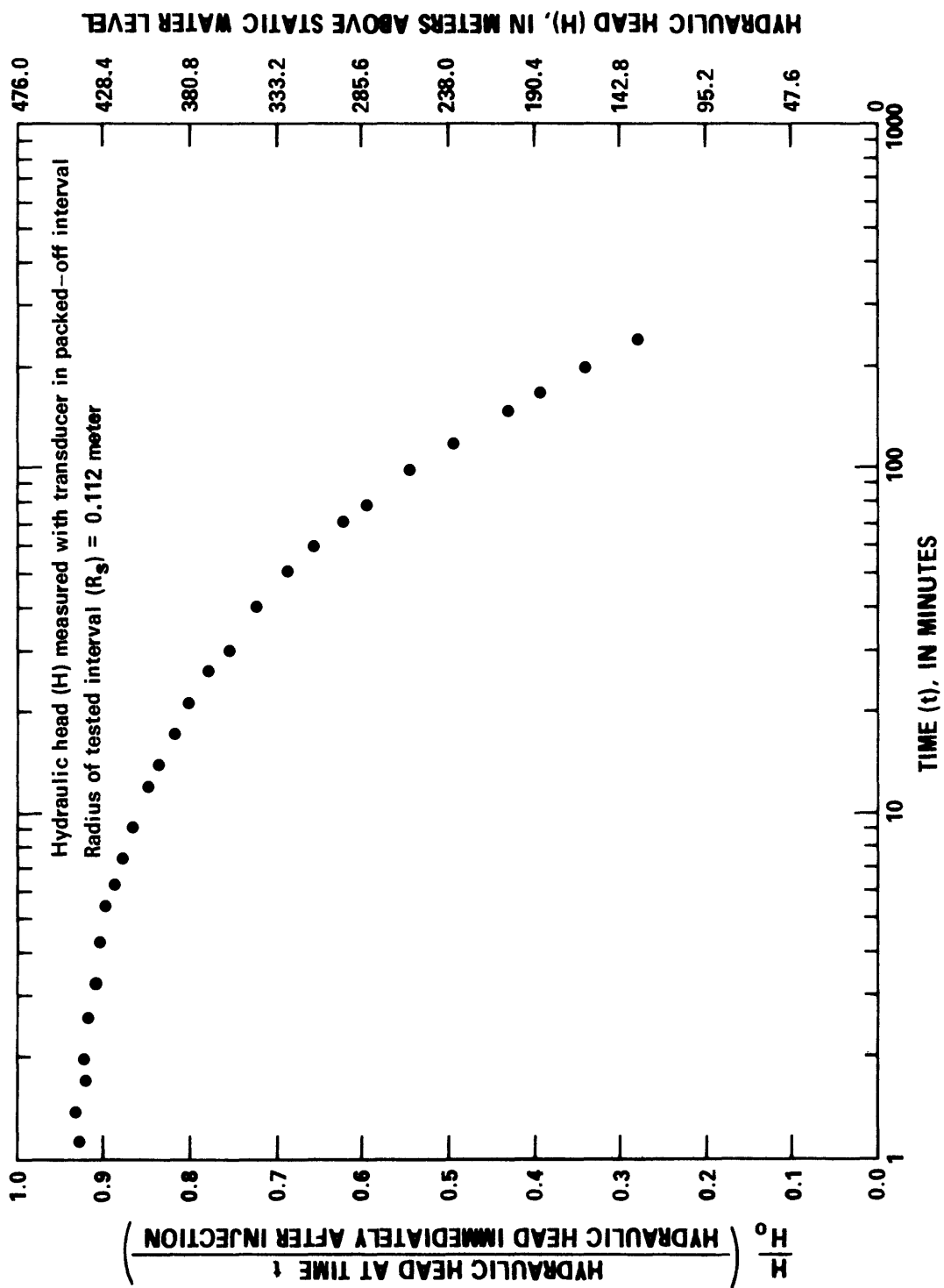


Figure 19.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 1,006 to 1,220 meters.

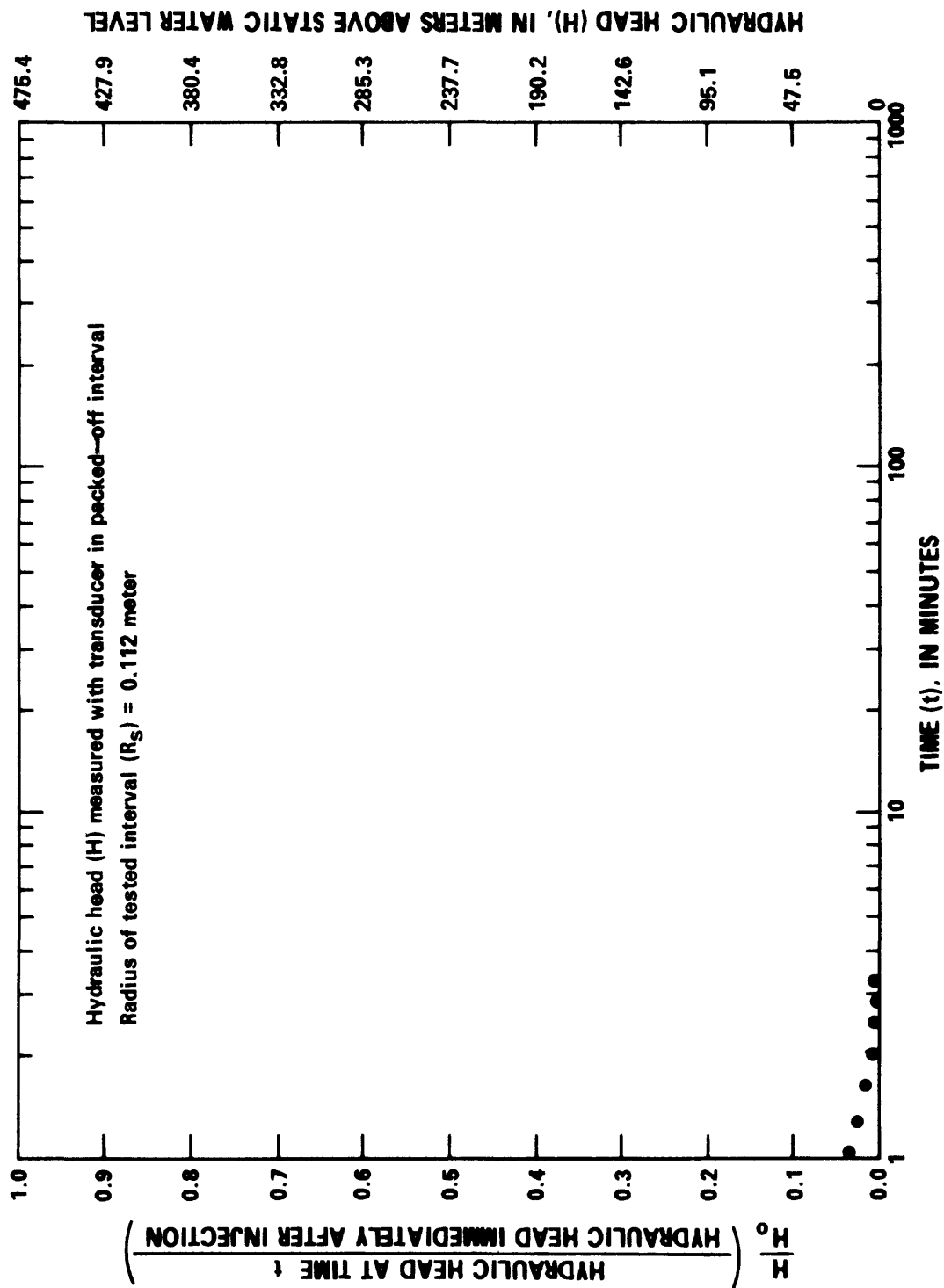


Figure 20.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 792 to 1,220 meters.

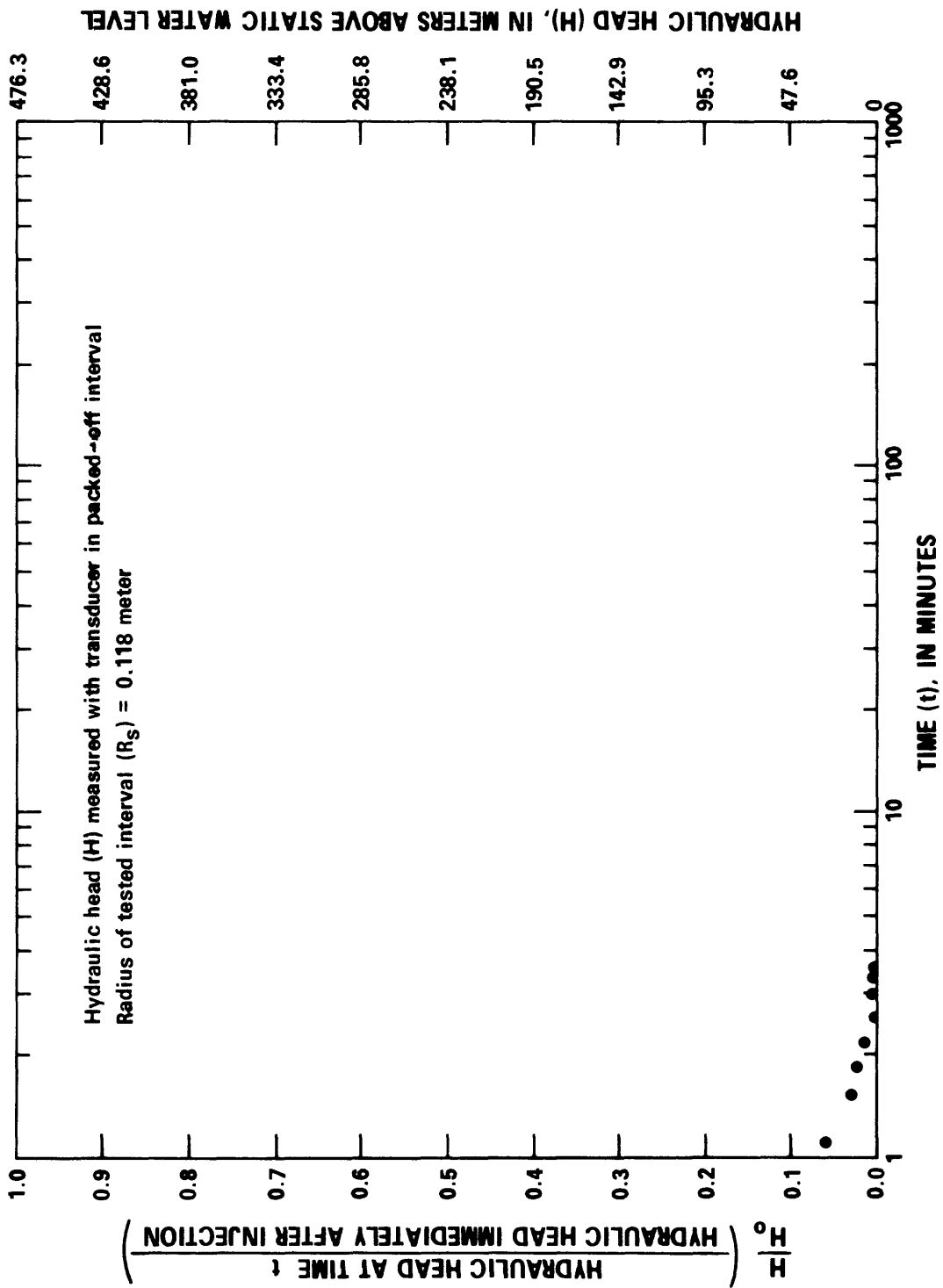


Figure 21.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 851 to 892 meters.

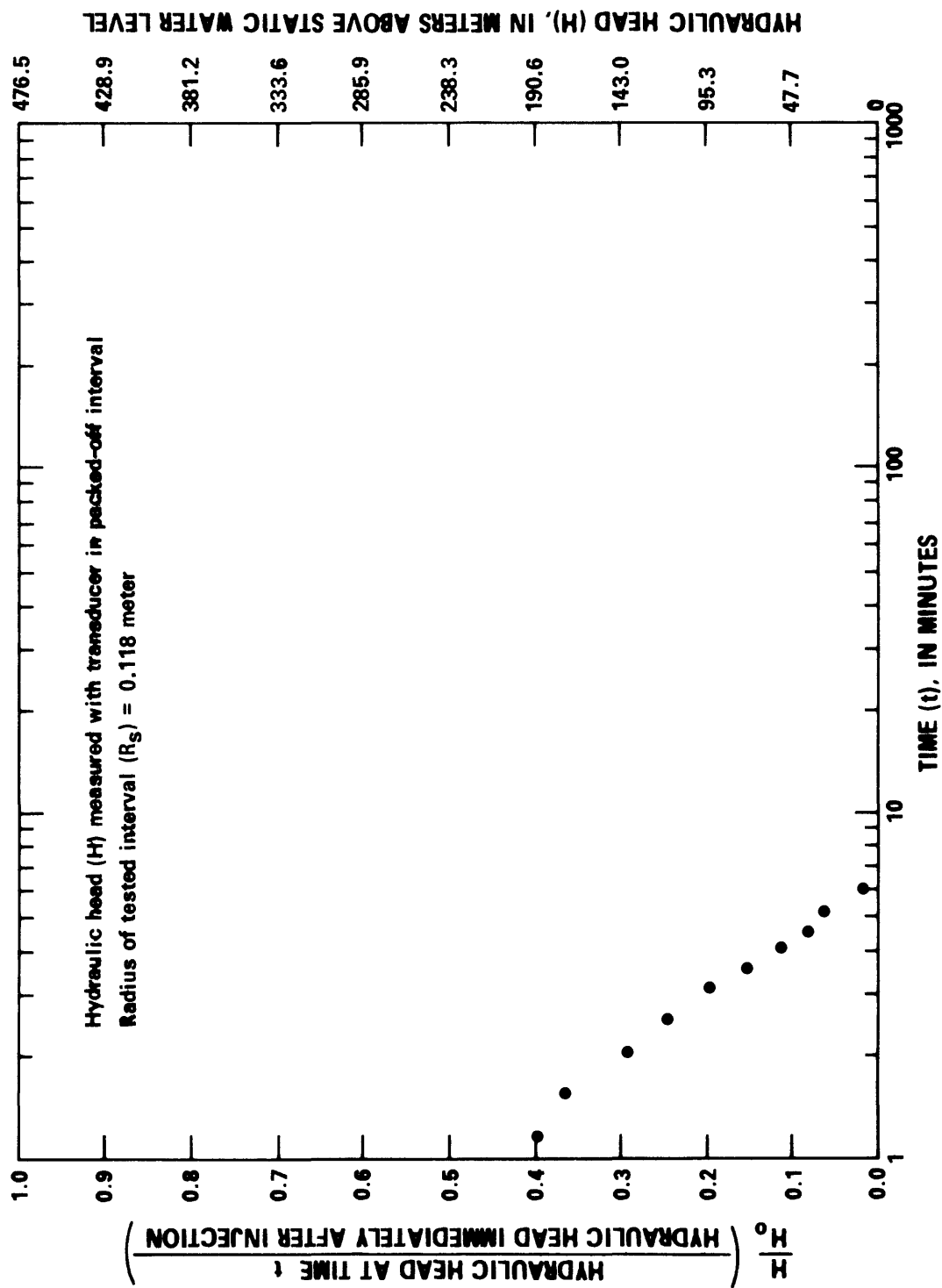


Figure 22.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 820 to 860 meters.

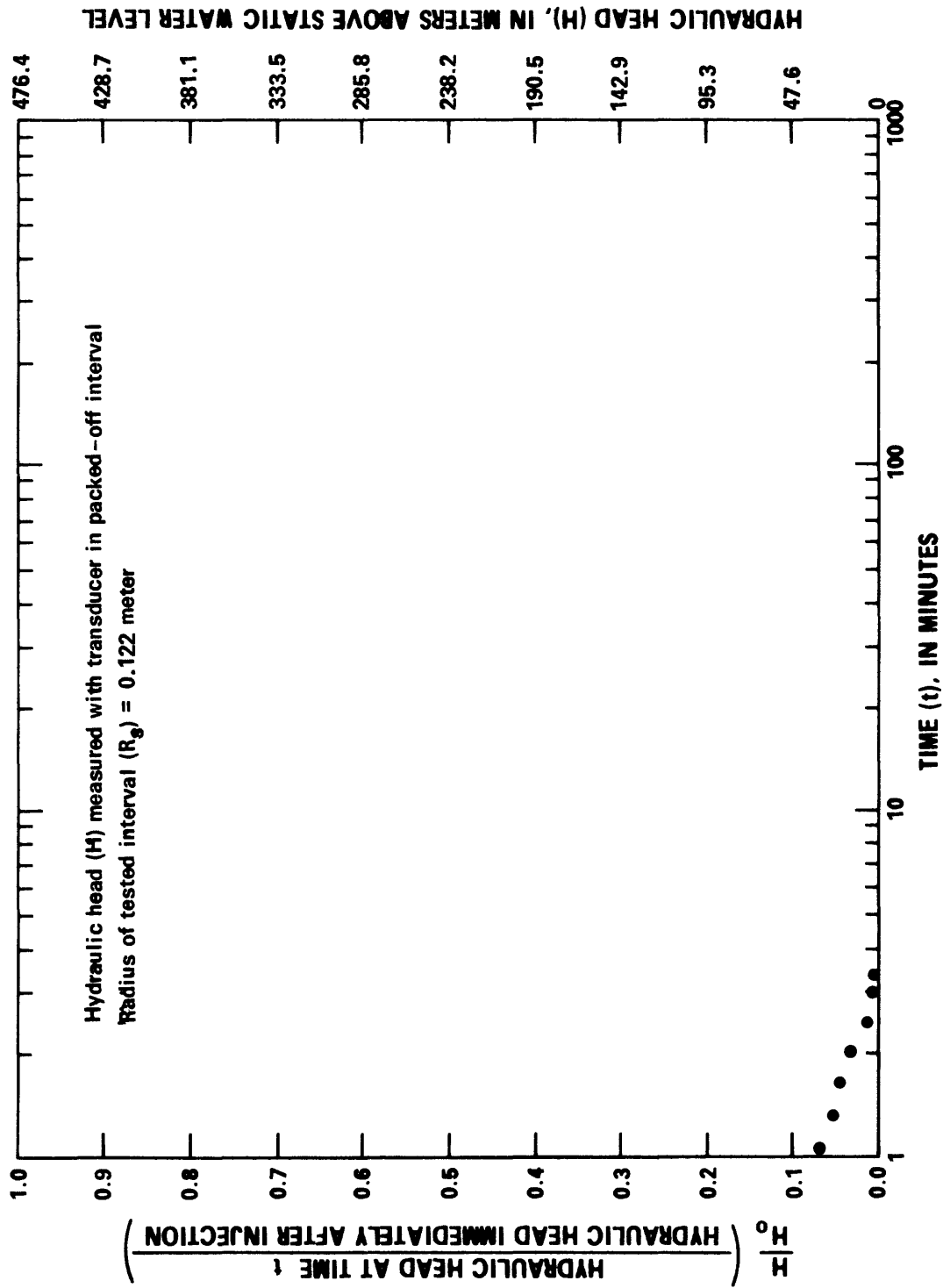


Figure 23.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 779 to 820 meters.

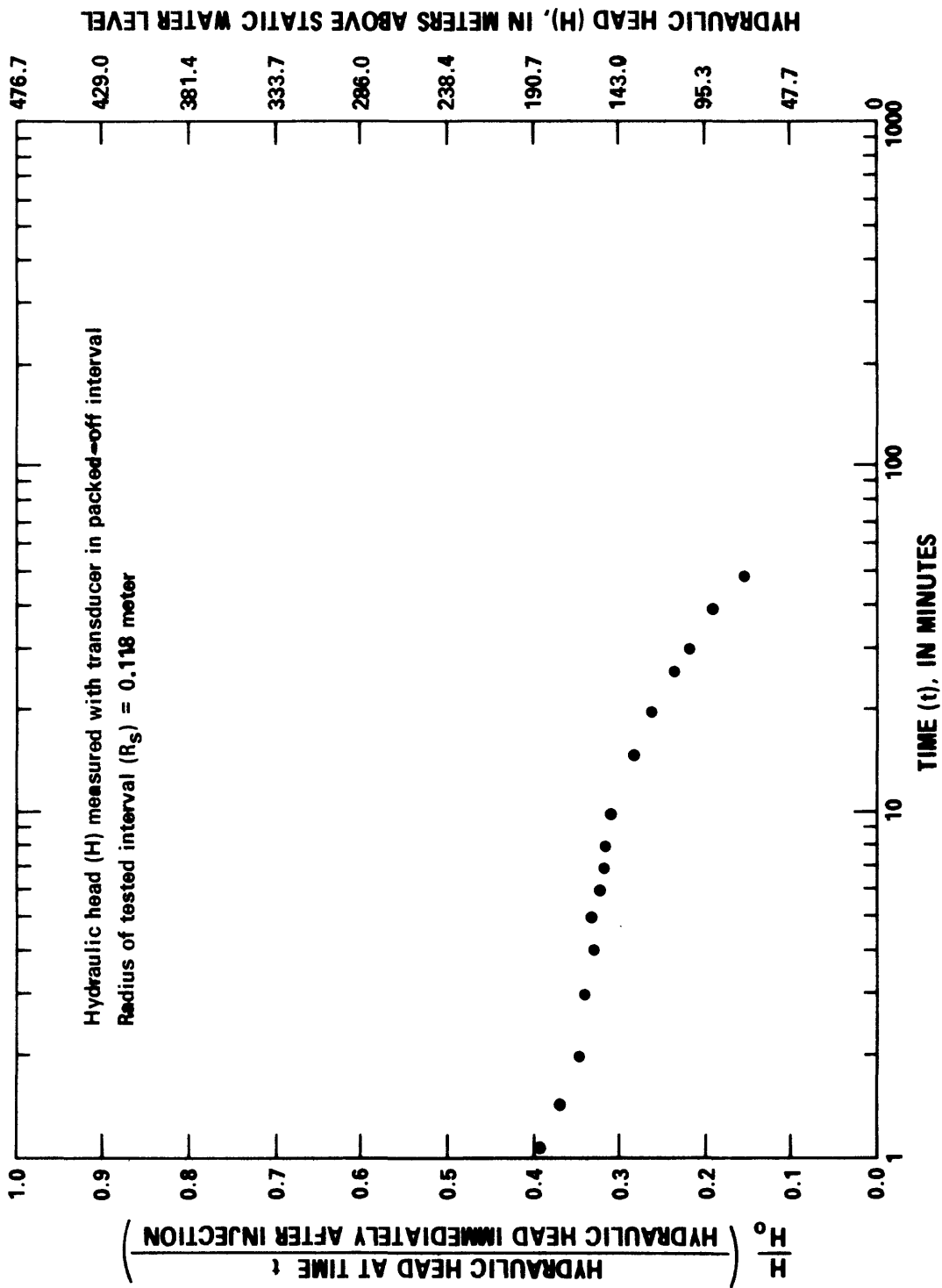


Figure 24. --Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 743 to 783 meters.

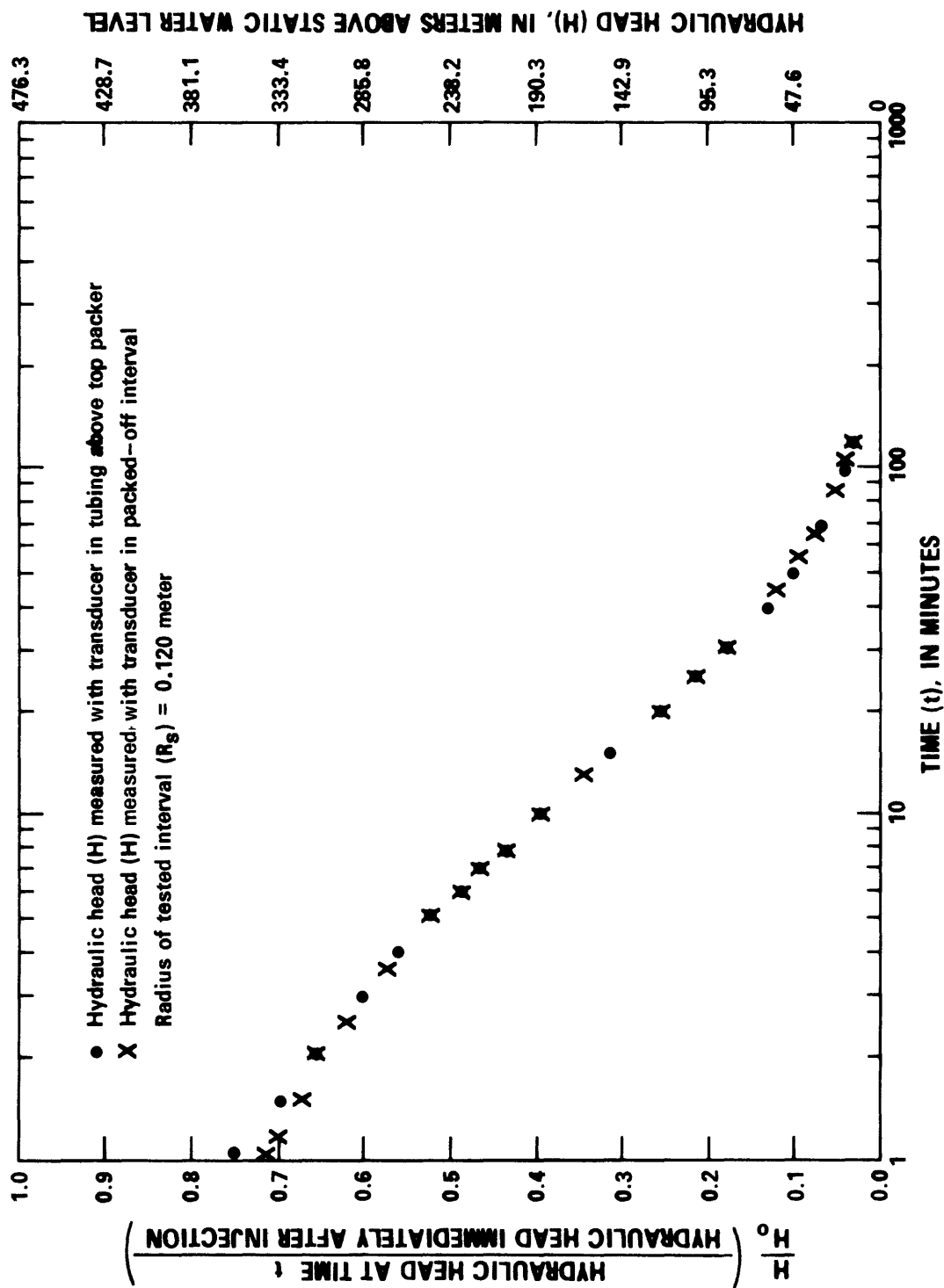


Figure 25.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 703 to 743 meters.

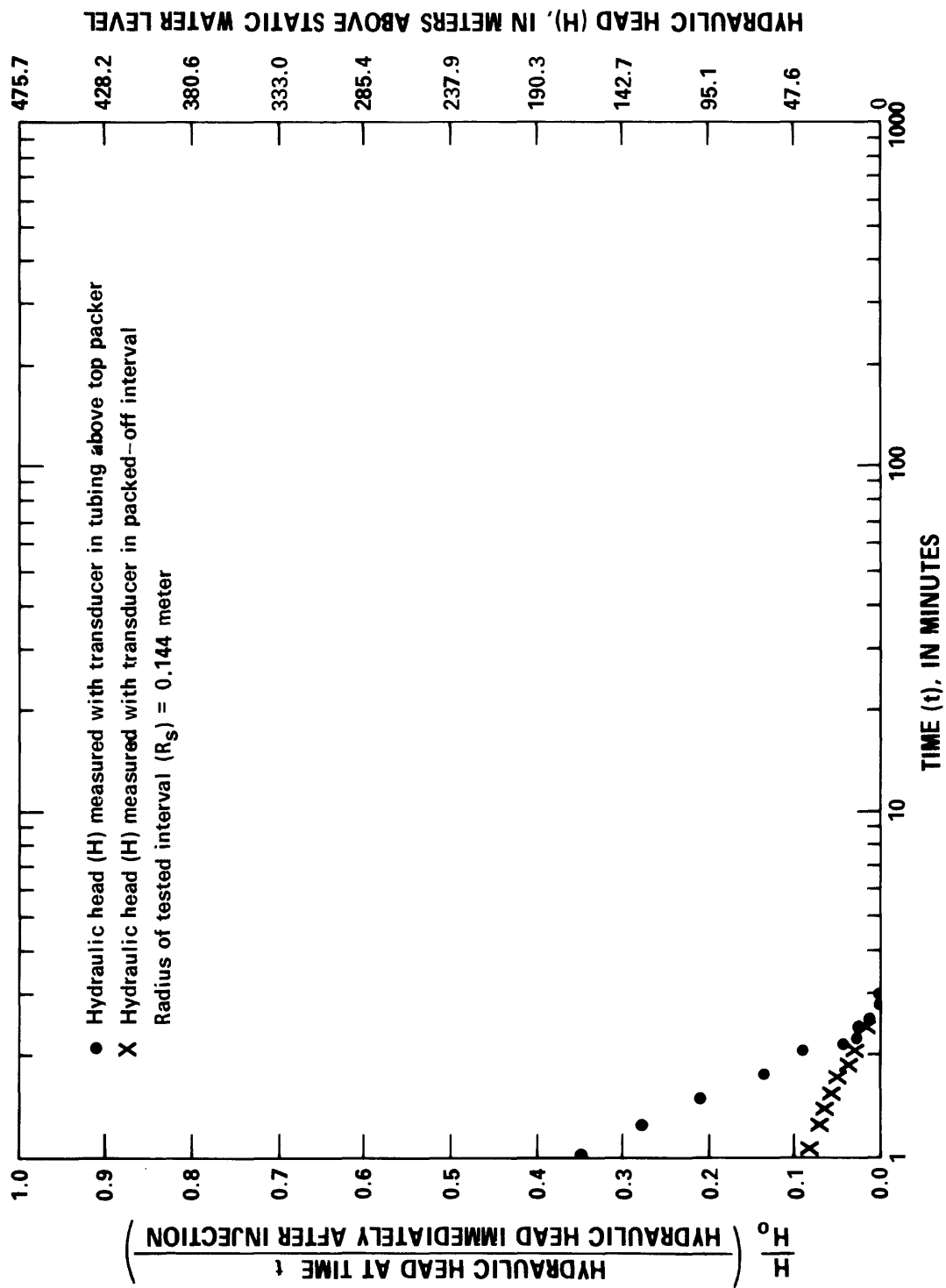


Figure 26.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 581 to 621 meters.



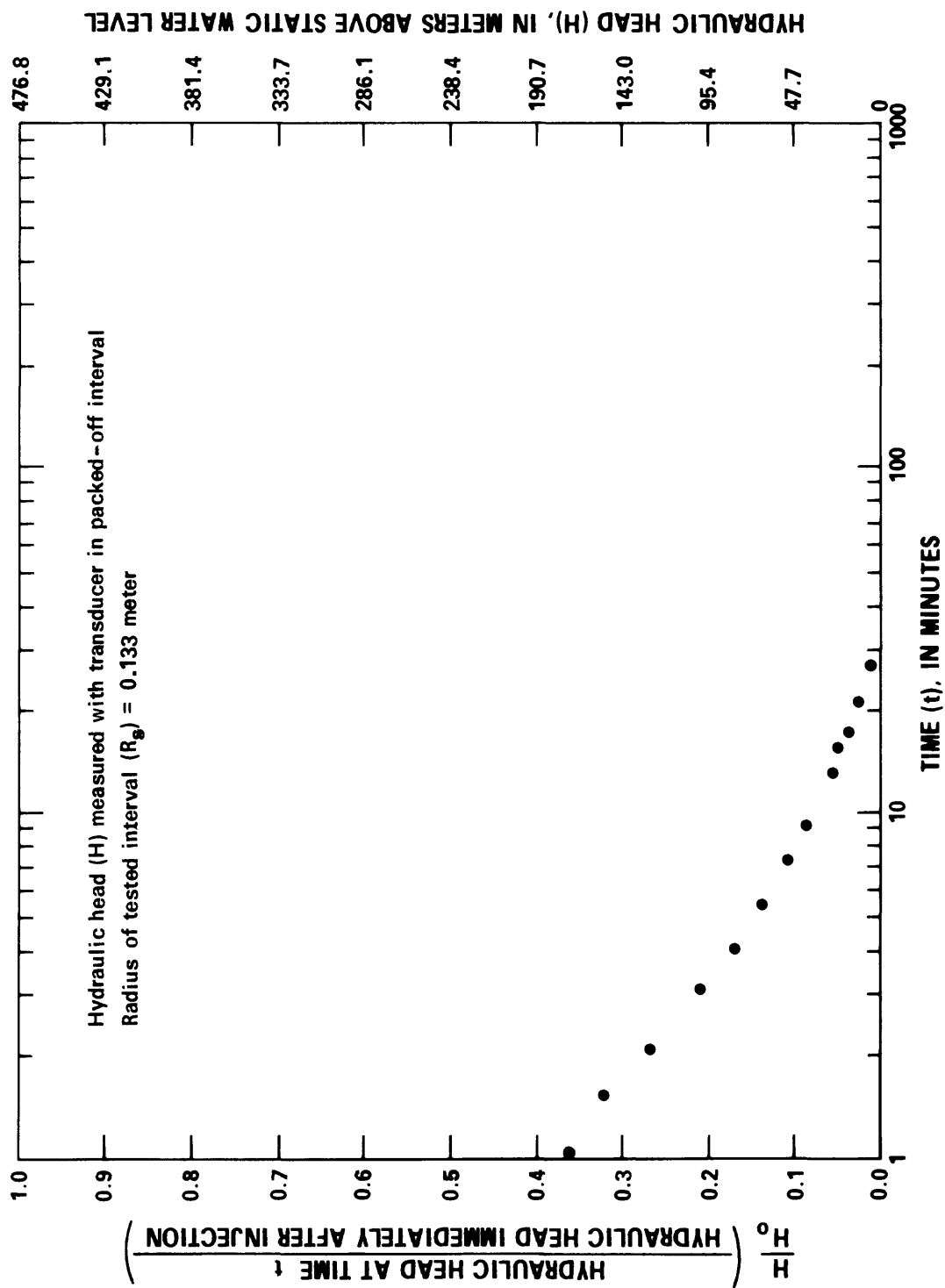


Figure 27.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 518 to 545 meters.

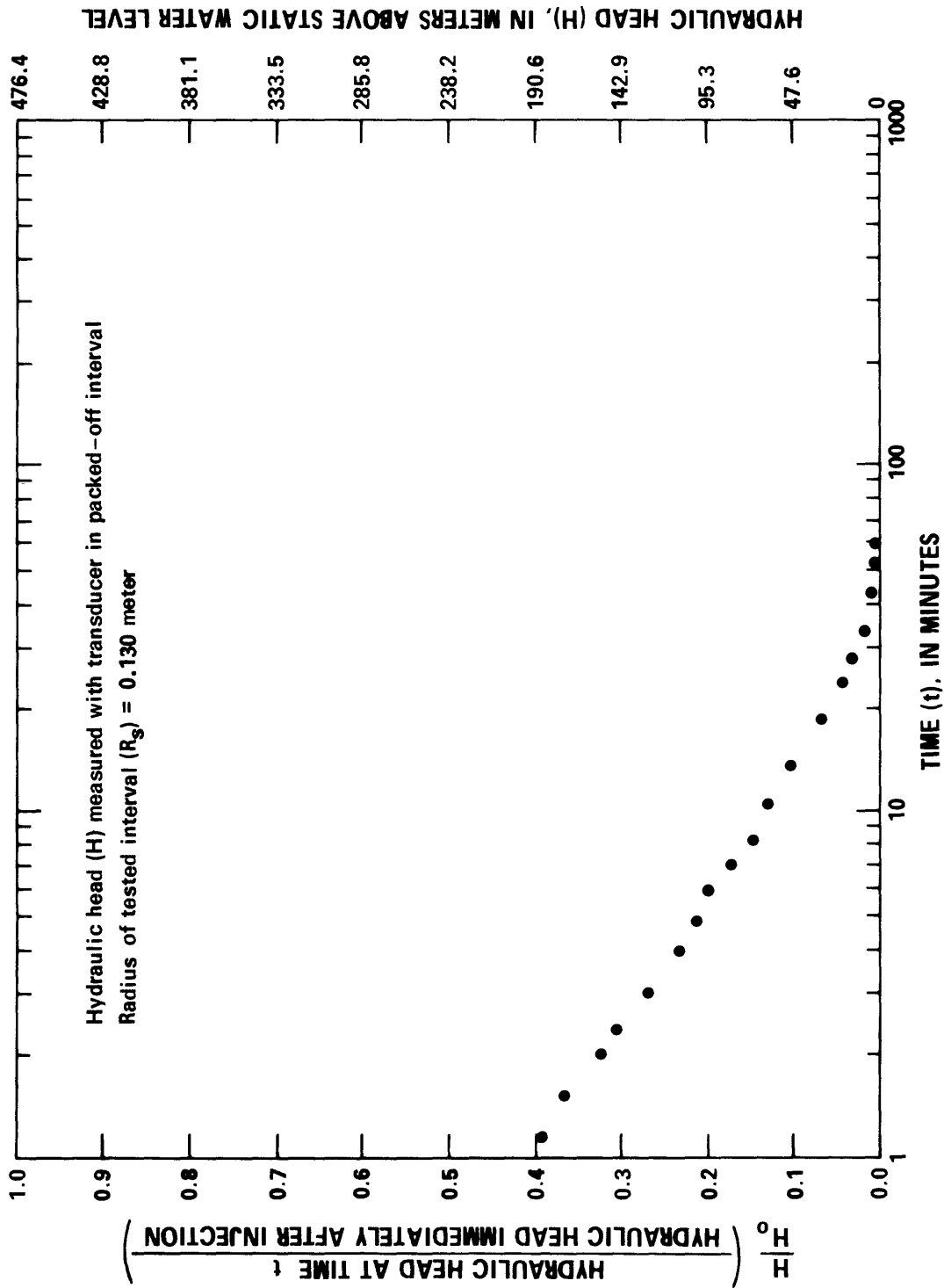


Figure 28.--Packer-injection test for test well UE-25b#1, interval from 621 to 661 meters.

### Chemical Analyses of Water

A composite ground-water sample from the tuffaceous rocks of the water-yielding interval penetrated by the well was collected and analyzed for chemical constituents and other properties (table 5). The sample was collected at the end of the third pumping test.

A lithium chloride spike was put into water added to the well during drilling, coring, and injection tests in order to provide an indication of the completeness of clean-out prior to water sampling. The well was pumped intensively before sampling to provide more representative samples.

Table 5.--Results of chemical analyses of water samples from  
test well UE-25b#1<sup>1</sup>

[All units are milligrams per liter unless otherwise indicated]

Chemical constituents or physical properties	Sampled during pumping of depth interval from 471 to 1,220 meters
Bicarbonate-field ( $\text{HCO}_3$ )	139
Calcium (Ca)	17
Chloride (Cl)	8.5
Fluoride (F)	1.6
Lithium (Li)	.22
Magnesium (Mg)	.59
Potassium (K)	3.5
Silica ( $\text{SiO}_2$ )	52
Strontium (Sr)	.038
Sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ )	22
Tritium ( $^3\text{H}$ )	<200 picocuries/liter
Oxygen-18/oxygen-16 ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ )	<sup>2</sup> -13.4
Deuterium-hydrogen ( $\delta^2\text{H}$ )	<sup>3</sup> -101
Carbon-13/carbon-12 ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ )	<sup>4</sup> -10.4
Dissolved solids (sum)	218
Dissolved solids (residue at 180° Celsius)	225
Hardness (as milligrams per liter $\text{CaCO}_3$ )	45
Temperature (degrees Celsius)	36
Specific conductance	<sup>5</sup> 281 microsiemens
pH (field)	7.3 units
Age (carbon-14 dating)	14,100 years

<sup>1</sup>Chemical analyses made by U.S. Geological Survey laboratory, Denver, Colorado.

<sup>2</sup>Deviation of oxygen-18/oxygen-16 ratio of sample from standard mean ocean water (SMOW) relative to SMOW, in parts per thousand.

<sup>3</sup>Deviation of deuterium/hydrogen ratio of sample from SMOW relative to SMOW, in parts per thousand.

<sup>4</sup>Deviation of carbon-13/carbon-12 ratio of sample from PeeDee Belemnite Standard (PDB) relative to PDB, in parts per thousand.

<sup>5</sup>Equivalent to micromhos per centimeter at 25° Celsius.

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