



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
DISTRICT II ARTESIA
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CABINET SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL Z 212 312 959

October 27, 1999

U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, NM 88221-3090

Attn: Beth Bennington-Environmental Program Manager
& Harold Johnson

Re: *Bass Enterprises Production Company's Applications to Drill:*

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- 1) *James Ranch Unit # 32, located in Unit O of Section 36, Township 22 South, Range 30 East, NMPM.*
- 2) *James Ranch Unit # 67, located in Unit L of Section 36, Township 22 South, Range 30 East, NMPM.*
- 3) *James Ranch Unit # 80, located in Unit B of Section 36, Township 22 South, Range 30 East, NMPM.*

Dear Ms. Bennington and Mr. Johnson,

Applications to drill for the above referenced wells are enclosed for your review. These wells lie within 1 mile of the WIPP withdraw area and are inside the R-111-P Potash area. The James Ranch Unit Well # 67 drilling application was approved on February 10th 1994 and has since then expired. Per terms of the Joint Powers Agreement between the Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department, the DOE and other agencies these applications are provided so that you may have the opportunity to develop and submit any comments thereon.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about this matter or if I can provide any further additional information.

Yours truly,

Bryan G. Arrant
Bryan G. Arrant
District II Geologist

Encls.

Cc:

New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Bill Mackey -
Coordinator of the N.M. Radioactive Waste Consultation Task Force
New Mexico State Land Office Oil & Minerals Division, Joe Mraz-Geologist
U.S. Department of Energy, Doug Lynn-Land Use Coordinator
Bass Enterprises Production Company, William R. Daniels-Division Drlg. Supt.