



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Federal Building
701 Camino del Rio
Durango, Colorado 81301

May 31, 1979

Benson Mineral Group, Inc.
3200 Anaconda Tower
555 17th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Gentlemen:

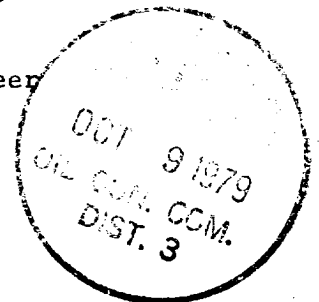
and file

Reference is made to our certified letter of May 15, 1979, and to telephone conversations with Mr. Paul Ellison on May 30, 1979, concerning drilling operations at the Mesa Chihuilla Unit Well No. 1 Federal 8-21-2 located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 8, T. 21 N., R. 2 W., NMPM, Sandoval County, New Mexico, on Federal oil and gas lease NM-7239.

Sufficient evidence has been furnished this office of large drilling rig availability and that you have made a diligent effort to contact several area drilling contractors to obtain a drilling rig. Therefore, a recommendation regarding diligent drilling operations, lease extension, or termination concerning lease NM-9372 and NM-A-9570 in the Mesa Chihuilla Unit will be withheld until June 30, 1979. Please advise us of any difficulties delaying the Four Corners Drilling rig that you have contracted.

Sincerely yours,

Carl A. Barrick
Acting District Engineer



RECEIVED

JUN 04 1979

B.M.G. INC.

