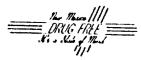


STATE OF NEW MEXICO



ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE

BRUCE KING GOVERNOR

ANTIA LOCKWOOD CABINET SECRETARY

1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87410 (505) 334-6178

February 4, 1993

Mr. Fred Lowery BHP Petroleum Inc. PO Box 977 Farmington NM 87499

RE:

Illegal Pits in Northwestern New Mexico

O.H. Randel #5, D-10-26N-11W

O.H. Randel #3, A-09-26N-11W (Large Blow/Tank Drain Pit)

Dear Mr. Lowery:

New Mexico Oil Conservation Order R-8952 (for the protection of migratory birds) became effective June 15, 1989 and states that <u>all pits</u> and open tanks more than 16' in diameter shall be screened, netted or covered.

On February 3, 1993 field inspections revealed that the above mentioned pits contained oil (see enclosed copies). In order for these pits to be in compliance, you are hereby directed to remove all oil or net these pits by March 1, 1993.

I am returning the unapproved C-134 for the O.H. Randel #5 pit previously filed on October 5, 1989. BHP may reapply for a variance once the pits are returned to compliance.

If you have any questions please feel free to call this office.

Sincerely,

Rico mon K. Jacobierst

Dianna K. Fairhurst

Deputy Oil & Gas Inspector

xc:

C-134 File

Well File

Don Ellsworth - BLM Farmington