STATE OF NEW MEXICO



ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE



BRUCE KING GOVERNOR ANITA LOCKWOOD CABINET SECRETARY 1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 97410 (505) 334-6178

December 15, 1993

Mr. Steve Dunn Merrion Oil & Gas Corporation PO Box 840 Farmington, NM 87499

RE: Illegal Pits in Northwestern New Mexico

Hickman A Tank Battery, F-3-26N-12W (Large Blow pit)

Chaco #1, F-18-26N-12W (Separator pit)

Chaco #2, N-07-26N-06W (Abandoned Separator pit)

Chaco #2R, K-07-26N-12W (Abandoned pit)

Dear Mr. Dunn:

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 top tanks more than 16' in diameter shall be screened, netted or covered. Field inspections conducted on December 14, 1993 revealed that above mentioned dry pits require compliance.

Exception to the order may be requested for pits which do not generally contain hydrocarbons, by filing Form C-134. No requests for exceptions have been received in this office for these dry pits.

You are hereby directed to submit exceptions to this office by December 29, 1993. If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 505-334-6178.

Sincerely,

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Dianna K. Fairhurst

Deputy Oil & Gas Inspector

xc: Well File

C-134 File

Don Ellsworth - BLM Farmington