

**MERIDIAN OIL**

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
RECEIVED

194 APR 28 AM 8 50

April 26, 1994

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division  
Attn: Mr. Bill LeMay  
P. O. Box 2088  
310 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Huerfano Unit #217R  
1395 FNL 1460 FEL, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

Dear Mr. LeMay:

Meridian Oil Inc. in accordance with Division Rule 303-C applies for an administrative downhole commingling order for the referenced well in the Angel Peak Gallup and the Basin Dakota fields. Meridian Oil operates the Huerfano Unit in which the well will be located. The ownerships of the zones to be commingled are not identical, but the Commission, pursuant to NMOCD Order No. R-9711, attached, has previously authorized the administrative approval to commingle the two zones within the Huerfano Unit. The offset operators to this proposed well are Conoco, Inc., Amoco Production Company, Marathon Oil Company and B.B.L. Ltd. The Bureau of Land Management and the above mentioned operators have received notification of this downhole commingle.

The proposed project is a redrill of the Huerfano Unit #217 DK wellbore which suffered an extensive casing failure and was plugged in 1992. The estimated remaining reserves associated with the Dakota formation in this drill block do not economically justify a redrill or dual completion of this location. The only economical way to recover the Dakota remaining reserves in this drill block is to downhole commingle production from both the Dakota and Gallup zones in this well.

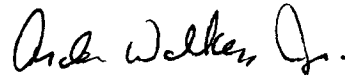
It is proposed to complete the Dakota formation and conduct a subsequent production test. It is then proposed to set a bridge plug above the Dakota, perforate and stimulate the Gallup, and test its production. The bridge plug will then be removed, and both zones produced through a single string of tubing. The reservoir characteristics of each of the subject zones are such that underground waste will not be caused by the proposed commingling. Attached with this application are the fluid compatibility tests run on Gallup and Dakota samples from the Huerfano Unit #105 well located 0.5 miles south of the intended redrill. The tests indicate that the fluids from both formations are compatible and that no precipitates will be formed which could potentially damage either reservoir. The shut-in pressures for the Dakota and Gallup are 428 and 274 psi, respectively.

The allocation of the commingled production will be calculated using flow tests from the Dakota and Gallup zones during completion operations. Meridian will consult with the district supervisor of the Aztec NMOCD office for approval of the allocation.

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division  
Mr. Bill LeMay  
Huerfano Unit #217R  
Downhole Commingling Request  
Page Two

Approval of this commingling application will allow for the prevention of wasted resources and protection of correlative rights. A similar application for a Huerfano Unit well (Huerfano Unit #131 NW/4 Sec. 34, T26N, R10W, has already received administrative approval NMOCD Order # R-9711 ). Included with this letter are plats showing ownership of offsetting leases for both the Dakota and Gallup, a copy of letters to the BLM and offset operators, a detailed report of fluid compatibility, and NMOCD Order No. R-9711.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arden Walker, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Arden L. Walker, Jr.  
Regional Production Engineer

KAS:tdg  
Attachments

cc: Frank T. Chavez - NMOCD/Aztec

# MERIDIAN OIL INC

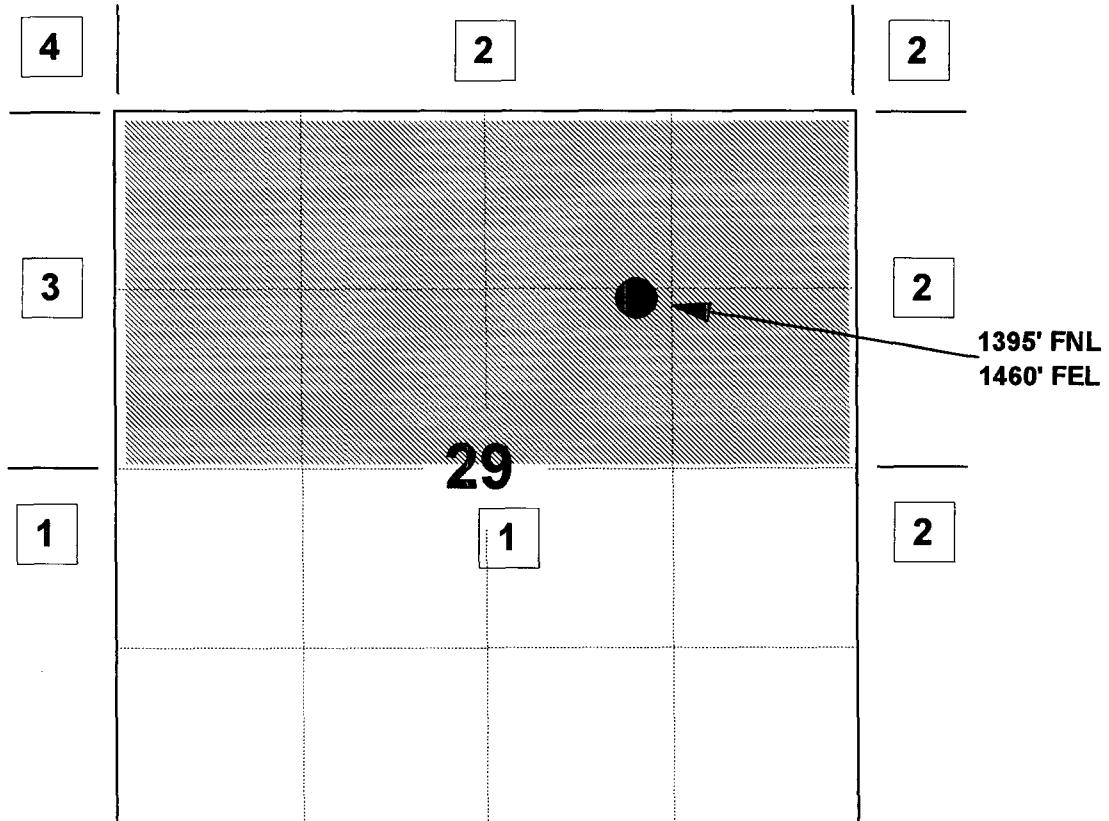
## HUERFANO UNIT #217R

OFFSET OPERATOR \ OWNER PLAT

Gallup / Dakota Commingle Well

Unorthodox Gallup \ Dakota Well Location

Township 27 North, Range 10 West



1) Meridian Oil Inc

2) Amoco Production Company

PO Box 800, Denver, CO 80201 &

Conoco, Inc.

10 Desta Dr, Suite 100W, Midland, TX 79705-4500

3) B.B.L. Ltd.

PO Box 911, Brecenridge, TX 76024

4) Meridian Oil Inc &

Marathon Oil Company

PO Box 552, Midland, TX 79702



# MERIDIAN OIL

April 26, 1994

Bureau of Land Management  
1235 La Plata Highway  
Farmington, New Mexico 87401

RE: Huerfano Unit #217R  
Unit G, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

Gentlemen:

Meridian Oil Inc. is in the process of applying for a downhole commingling order from the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) for the referenced well located in San Juan County, New Mexico. The approved application will commingle the Angel Peak Gallup and the Basin Dakota fields.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of Meridian's application. If you have no objections to the NMOCD issuing a commingling order, we would appreciate your signing this letter and returning the original to Mr. LeMay at the following address with a copy to this office:

New Mexico Oil Conservation Division  
Mr. William LeMay  
P.O. Box 2088  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Your prompt attention to this matter would be appreciated.

Sincerely,



Keith A. Swainson  
Reservoir Engineer

**The undersigned hereby waives objection to the referenced  
Downhole Commingle Request.**

**Company/Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# MERIDIAN OIL

April 26, 1994

Amoco Production Company  
P.O. Box 800  
Denver, Colorado 80201

RE: Huerfano Unit #217R  
Unit G, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

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**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# MERIDIAN OIL

April 26, 1994

Marathon Oil Company  
P.O. Box 552  
Midland, Texas 79702

RE: Huerfano Unit #217R  
Unit G, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

Gentlemen:

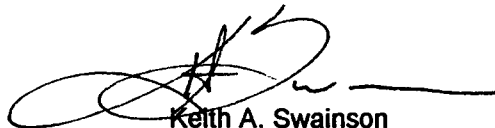
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**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# MERIDIAN OIL

April 26, 1994

Conoco, Inc.  
10 Desta Drive  
Suite 100W  
Midland, Texas 79705-4500

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Unit G, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

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**Company/Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



# MERIDIAN OIL

April 26, 1994

B.B.L. Ltd.  
P.O. Box 991  
Breckenridge, Texas 76024

RE: Huerfano Unit #217R  
Unit G, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

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**Company/Owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MERIDIAN OIL**  
**HUERFANO # 105**  
**SAN JUAN COUNTY, NM**  
**DAKOTA/GALLUP FORMATION**



**The Western Company**

**COMMINGLE TEST**

**PREPARED FOR**

**KEITH SWAINSON**

**SERVICE POINT**  
**FARMINGTON, NM**  
**(505) 327-6222**

**PREPARED BY**  
**LOREN DIEDER**  
**DISTRICT ENGINEER**  
**FARMINGTON**

**APRIL 21, 1994**

**SALES REPRESENTATIVE**  
**LARRY E. LEWIS**

**FM020970**

April 22, 1994

MERIDIAN OIL COMPANY  
P.O. Box 4289  
Farmington, NM 87499

Four samples from the Huerfano #105, two waters (Dak/Gal) and two oils(Dak/Gal), were submitted for analysis on April 21. The tests were to determine the result of commingling the oils and waters from the Dakota and Gallup formations.

Samples:

1. Dakota formation water
2. Gallup formation water
3. Dakota formation water
4. Gallup formation water

Analysis:

- API analysis on water
- API gravity on oil

Commingling:

1. Dakota water and Gallup water combined in 50/50 amounts (25 ml. ea) to observe for effect.
2. Dakota oil and Gallup oil combined in 50/50 amounts (25 ml. ea) to observe for effect.
3. Mixed Water and oil samples from tests 1. and 2. were combined using an emulsion blade at high speed for 30 seconds (total 100 ml sample) to observe for stability.

Test results:

1. Combined Dak/Gal waters showed no adverse effects.
2. Combined Dak/Gal oils showed no adverse effects.
3. Emulsion created as described in test 3. above was not stable (separated in less than 10 minutes) with a small dirty interface (less than 1 ml).

No adverse effects from combination of samples were observed other than the small interface noted in test 3.

Individual sample test results follow.

Dave Coleson  
Lab Tech.

# THE WESTERN COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA

## API WATER ANALYSIS

Company: MERIDIAN  
Field:  
Well: #105  
Depth:  
Formation: DAKOTA  
State:  
County:

W.C.N.A. Sample No.: S202194  
Legal Description:  
Lease or Unit: HUERFANO  
Water.B/D:  
Sampling Point:  
Sampled By:  
Date Sampled:

Type of Water(Produced,Supply, ect.): PRODUCED

### PROPERTIES

pH: 6.87  
Specific Gravity: 1.010  
Resistivity (ohm-meter): 1.50  
Temperature: 70 F

Iron, Fe(total): 0  
Sulfide as H<sub>2</sub>S: 0

### DISSOLVED SOLIDS

CATIONS	mg/l	me/l
Sodium, Na:	2369	: 103
Calcium, Ca:	80	: 4
Magnesium, Mg:	49	: 4
Barium, Ba:	N/A	: N/A
Potassium, K:	200	: 5

Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of EDTA: .2  
Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of EDTA: .2

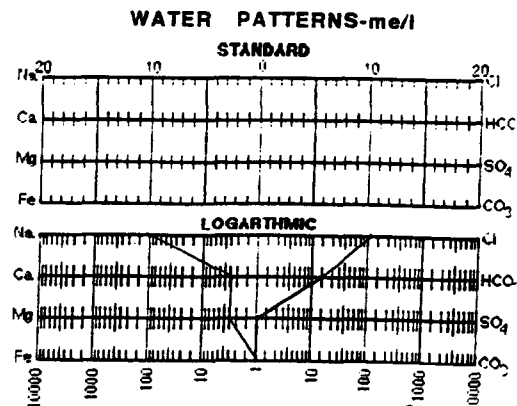
ANIONS	mg/l	me/l
N: .5814Chloride, Cl:	4122	: 116
Sulfate, SO <sub>4</sub> :	0	: 0
Carbonate, CO <sub>3</sub> :		
Bicarbonate, HCO <sub>3</sub> :	1220	: 20

Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of AgNO<sub>3</sub>: .2  
Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>: .2  
Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>: .2

Total Dissolved  
Solids (calculated): 8040  
Total Hardness: 400

Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of EDTA: .4

### REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:



Analyst: PC  
Date Analyzed: 4/22/97

# THE WESTERN COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA

## API WATER ANALYSIS

Company: MERIDIAN  
Field:  
Well: #105  
Depth:  
Formation: GALLUP  
State:  
County:

W.C.N.A. Sample No.: S202094  
Legal Description:  
Lease or Unit: HUERFANO  
Water.B/D:  
Sampling Point:  
Sampled By:  
Date Sampled:

Type of Water(Produced,Supply, ect.): PROD.

### PROPERTIES

pH: 5.69  
Specific Gravity: 1.000  
Resistivity (ohm-meter): 10.00  
Temperature: 75 F

Iron, Fe(total): 3  
Sulfide as H2S: 0

### D I S S O L V E D SOLIDS

CATIONS	mg/l	me/l
Sodium, Na:	1081	47
Calcium, Ca:	40	2
Magnesium, Mg:	24	2
Barium, Ba:	N/A	N/A
Potassium, K:	200	5

Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of EDTA: .1  
Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of EDTA: .1

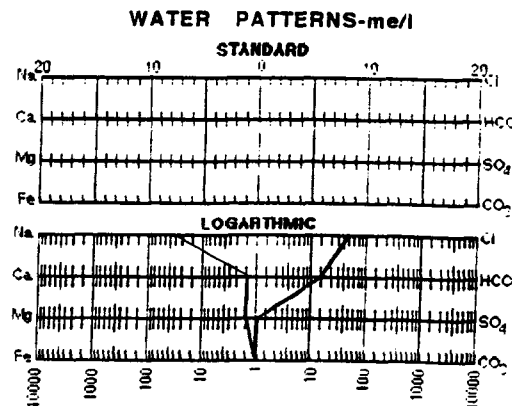
ANIONS	mg/l	me/l
N: .5640Chloride, Cl:	1999	56
Sulfate, SO4:	0	0
Carbonate, CO3:		
Bicarbonate, HCO3:	1220	20

Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of AgNO3: .1  
Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of H2SO4:  
Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of H2SO4: .2

Total Dissolved  
Solids (calculated): 4564  
Total Hardness: 100

Sample(ml): 1.0 ml of EDTA: .1

### REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:



Analyst:  
Date Analyzed:



Date 4/22/94

Rocky Mountain Region

THE WESTERN COMPANY

Oil Analysis

Operator MERIDIAN Date Sampled \_\_\_\_\_  
Well HUERFANO #105 Date Received 4/21/94  
Field \_\_\_\_\_ Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_  
Formation DAKOTA Worked By DC  
Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Sample Description BROWN  
County \_\_\_\_\_ TRANSLUCENT LIQUID  
State \_\_\_\_\_

API Gravity 59.4 ° at 60°F

Paraffin Content \_\_\_\_\_ % by weight

Asphaltene Content \_\_\_\_\_ % by weight

Pour Point \_\_\_\_\_ °F

Cloud Point \_\_\_\_\_ °F

Comments:

60.2 @ 68°F

Analyst DC



Date 4/22/94

Rocky Mountain Region

THE WESTERN COMPANY

Oil Analysis

Operator MERIDIAN Date Sampled \_\_\_\_\_  
Well HUCKFAM #105 Date Received 4/21/94  
Field \_\_\_\_\_ Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_  
Formation GALLUP Worked By DC  
Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Sample Description AMBER  
County \_\_\_\_\_ LIQUID C TRACE CLOUDINESS  
State \_\_\_\_\_

API Gravity 53.1 ° at 60°F

Paraffin Content \_\_\_\_\_ % by weight

Asphaltene Content \_\_\_\_\_ % by weight

Pour Point \_\_\_\_\_ °F

Cloud Point \_\_\_\_\_ °F

Comments:

53.9 @ 68°F

Analyst DC



4/22/94

MERIDIAN OIL, INC.  
WELL ANALYSIS COMPARISONWELL NAME: HUERFANO 105  
STATION NO.:

	DAKOTA	<i>Gailup</i>
ANALYSIS NO.:	MDN40075	MDN40076
DATE:	4/21/94	4/21/94
COMPONENT	MOLE %	MOLE %
NITROGEN	0.982	0.421
CO2	0.962	0.958
METHANE	73.635	69.433
ETHANE	12.272	16.584
PROPANE	7.314	8.565
I-BUTANE	0.940	0.786
N-BUTANE	2.079	2.035
I-PENTANE	0.545	0.397
N-PENTANE	0.502	0.395
HEXANE +	0.769	0.426
BTU'S	1333.4	1365.0
GPM	6.9781	8.1696
SPEC. GRAV.	0.7852	0.7992



*and: P. Readfield*

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING  
CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 10510  
Order No. R-9711

APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL INC. FOR  
DOWNHOLE COMMINGLING AND FOR AN  
ADMINISTRATIVE DOWNHOLE COMMINGLING  
PROCEDURE WITHIN THE HUERFANO SAND  
UNIT AREA, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on July 23, 1992, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 2nd day of September, 1992, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

(1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) The applicant, Meridian Oil Inc., seeks approval to commingle gas production from the Undesignated Gallegos-Gallup Associated Pool and the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool within the wellbore of its Huerfano Unit Well No. 131 located 800 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit D) of Section 34, Township 26 North, Range 10 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico. The N/2 of Section 34, forming a standard 320-acre spacing and proration unit for both zones, is to be dedicated to the subject well.

(3) The applicant further seeks the adoption of an administrative procedure for authorizing the downhole commingling of Gallup and Dakota production in the wellbores of certain existing and subsequently drilled wells within the Huerfano Unit Area without additional notice to each affected interest owner within the Unit Area.

(4) The Huerfano Unit is a Federal exploratory unit comprising some 63,122 acres in portions of Townships 25, 26 and 27 North and Ranges 9, 10 and 11 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico. The unit was formed in 1950 and is currently operated by Meridian Oil Inc.

(5) The Huerfano Unit Well No. 131 was drilled in 1971 and completed as a producing well in the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool. Division records indicate that the subject well last produced in September, 1989.

(6) At the time the subject well was shut in, it was capable of low marginal production only from the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool.

(7) The Gallup interval is not yet completed in the subject well, however, the applicant expects initial production from said zone to be approximately 100-200 MCF gas per day.

(8) The proposed commingling is necessary in order to efficiently and economically produce the remaining gas reserves in the Dakota and Gallup formations.

(9) Although the interest is not common among the Dakota and Gallup zones in the subject well, the applicant notified all interest owners of its proposal to commingle. No interest owner and/or offset operator appeared at the hearing in opposition to the application.

(10) The proposed commingling should result in the recovery of additional gas reserves from each of the subject pools, thereby preventing waste, and will not violate correlative rights.

(11) The reservoir characteristics of each of the subject zones are such that underground waste would not be caused by the proposed commingling provided that the well is not shut-in for an extended period.

(12) To afford the Division the opportunity to assess the potential for waste and to expeditiously order appropriate remedial action, the operator should notify the supervisor of the Aztec District Office of the Division any time the subject well is shut-in for 7 consecutive days.

(13) The applicant should consult with the supervisor of the Aztec District Office of the Division upon completion of the subject well in order to determine a proper allocation of production from each of the commingled zones.

(14) The Basin-Dakota Pool has essentially been fully developed in the Huerfano Unit as evidenced by applicant's testimony which indicates that the Dakota Participating Area (PA) within the unit currently contains in excess of 44,000 acres.

(15) The Gallup Participating Area (PA) within the Huerfano Unit currently contains in excess of 10,000 acres.

(16) The applicant has identified substantial potential for new gas production from the Gallup formation within the Huerfano Unit.

(17) Further testimony by the applicant indicates that gas reserves in the Gallup formation on an individual well basis are not sufficient to economically justify the drilling of new wells to produce such reserves.

(18) The applicant has identified 20-50 wells within the Huerfano Unit currently completed in or producing from the Basin-Dakota Gas Pool which are candidates for downhole commingling.

(19) Applicant's Exhibit No. 7 Part (C) in this case is a list of over 400 interest owners in the Dakota and Gallup Participating Areas within the Huerfano Unit. All such interest owners were notified of the application in this case.

(20) By virtue of different Dakota and Gallup Participating Areas, interest ownership is generally not common among the Dakota and Gallup formations within any given drill tract in the Huerfano Unit.

(21) Rule No. 303(C) of the Division Rules and Regulations provides that administrative approval for downhole commingling may be granted provided that the interest ownership, including working, royalty and overriding royalty interest, is common among the commingled zones.

(22) Applicant's proposed administrative procedure would provide for Division approval to downhole commingle wells in the Huerfano Unit Area without hearing, and without the requirement that each interest owner in the Dakota and Gallup Participating Areas be notified of such commingling.

(23) Applicant's evidence and testimony indicates that all interests in the Gallup and Dakota formations within the Huerfano Unit Area are fully committed to the unit by virtue of ratification of the Unit Agreement. The applicant further testified that all such interest owners, by virtue of such ratification, have contractually agreed how they will participate and share in unit production.

(24) The downhole commingling of wells within the Huerfano Unit Area will benefit working, royalty and overriding royalty interest owners. In addition, the downhole commingling of wells within the Huerfano Unit Area should not violate the correlative rights of any interest owner.

(25) The evidence in this case indicates that notice to each interest owner within the Dakota and Gallup Participating Areas of subsequent downhole comminglings within the Huerfano Unit is unnecessary and is an excessive burden on the applicant.

(26) No interest owner and/or offset operator appeared at the hearing in opposition to the application.

(27) An administrative procedure should be established within the Huerfano Unit for obtaining approval for subsequently downhole commingled wells without notice and hearing, provided however that, all provisions contained within Rule No. 303(C) of the Division Rules and Regulations, with the exception of Part 1 (b)(v), are fully complied with.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

(1) The applicant, Meridian Oil Inc., is hereby authorized to commingle production from the Basin-Dakota and Undesignated Gallegos-Gallup Associated Pools within the wellbore of its Huerfano Unit Well No. 131 located 800 feet from the North line and 990 feet from the West line (Unit D) of Section 34, Township 26 North, Range 10 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico.

(2) The operator shall immediately notify the supervisor of the Aztec District Office of the Division any time the subject well has been shut-in for 7 consecutive days, and shall concurrently present to the Division a plan for remedial action.

(3) The applicant shall consult with the supervisor of the Aztec District Office of the Division upon completion of the subject well in order to determine a proper allocation of production from each of the commingled zones.

CASE NO. 10510

Order No. R-9711

Page -5-

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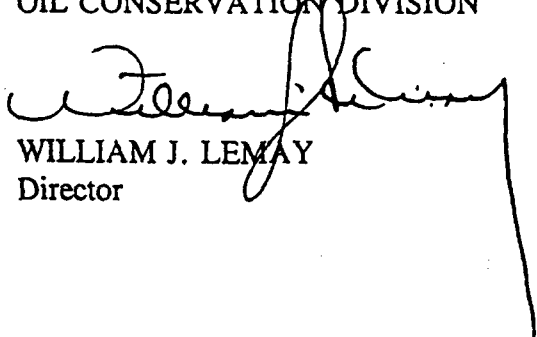
(4) An administrative procedure for obtaining approval to downhole commingle additional wells within the Huerfano Unit, located in portions of Townships 25, 26 and 27 North and Ranges 9, 10 and 11 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, is hereby established.

(5) In order to obtain Division authorization to downhole commingle wells within the Huerfano Unit, the applicant shall file an application with the Santa Fe and Aztec Offices of the Division. Such application shall contain all of the information required under Rule No. 303(C) of the Division Rules and Regulations, provided however that the applicant shall not be required to provide notice to all interest owners within the Dakota and Gallup Participating Areas in the Huerfano Unit of such proposed commingling. In addition, the application shall contain evidence that all offset operators and the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have been notified of the proposed commingling.

(6) Jurisdiction is hereby retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

  
WILLIAM J. LEMAY  
Director

S E A L

**MERIDIAN OIL**

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION  
RECEIVED

'94 MAY 16 AM 8 50

April 26, 1994

Conoco, Inc.  
10 Desta Drive  
Suite 100W  
Midland, Texas 79705-4500

RE: Huerfano Unit #217R  
Unit G, Section 29, T27N, R10W  
San Juan County, New Mexico  
Downhole Commingling Request

Gentlemen:

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Reservoir Engineer

**The undersigned hereby waives objection to the referenced  
Downhole Commingle Request.**

Company/Owner: Conoco Inc.  
Title: Gregg Lutho, Analyst Financial  
Date: 5/10/94