Ru. 2/3/93

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

February 2, 1993

Mr. Mike Stogner New Mexico Oil Conservation 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, NM 87504

Re:

Application for Unorthodox Well Location Apache "25" Fed. Com. Well No. 2 660' FSL & 1310' FEL (Unit P) Section 25, Township 22 South, Range 33 East, NMPM Eddy County, New Mexico



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Dear Mr. Stogner:

Mitchell Energy Corporation hereby requests approval of an unorthodox location for the subject well at the location shown above. In compliance with your letter dated January 28, 1993, we have moved the location off the quarter-quarter section line into Unit P. As previously indicated, an unorthodox location is being requested due to potash restrictions. A copy of relevant correspondence for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is attached for your review. The Application for Permit to Drill was filed with the BLM on December 17, 1992 and a Sundry Notice has been submitted reflecting the change in location.

A plat showing the ownership of all tracts offsetting the spacing unit for the subject well is attached. A copy of this application is being sent to each of these parties.

If you have any questions, please call me at (713) 377-5818.

Sincerely,

MITCHELL ENERGY CORPORATION

Mark N. Stephenson Manager Production-Regulatory Affairs

MNS:mtb apache2.mns

cc:

All parties on Service List - VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

CNC-MITCHELL ENERGY CORPORATION 2001 TIMBERLOCH PLACE P.O. BOX 4000, THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS 77387-4000 713/377-5500 A subsidiary of Mitchell Energy & Development Corp. Service List Application of Mitchell Energy Corporation for Unorthodox Well Location Apache "25" Fed. Com. Well No. 2 Eddy County, New Mexico i

Plat Tracts 1, 3, 4, & 5

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Perry R. Bass, Inc. Lee M. Bass, Inc. Sid R. Bass, Inc. ThruLine, Inc. Keystone, Inc. Bass Enterprises Production Co. Attn: Jens Hansen 201 Main Street Ft. Worth, Texas 76102-3105

Plat Tracts 2, 6, & 10

Conoco, Inc. Attn: Mike Johnson 10 Desta Drive West Midland, Texas 79705

<u>Plat Tract 1</u> Arco Oil & Gas Company P.O. Box 1610 Midland, Texas 79702

<u>Plat Tract 7</u> Dept. of Energy Waste Isolation Pilot Project P.O. Box 2078 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

<u>Plat Tract 5</u> Enron Oil & Gas Company P.O. Box 2267 Midland, Texas 79702

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| Form 3160-5 (June 1990) | FORM APPROVED Budget Bureau No. 1004-0135 Expires: March 31, 1993 5. Lease Designation and Serial No. | | | |
| | NM NM 89052 | | | |
| Do not use this fo U | If Indian, Allottee or Tribe Name N/A | | | |
| | 7. If Unit or CA, Agreement Designation | | | |
| 1. Type of Well | SUBMIT IN | | N/A | |
| Oil Well X Gas | Other | | 8. Well Name and No. | |
| 2. Name of Operator | | | Apache "25" Fed Com #2 | |
| Mitchell El 3. Address and Telephone N | nergy Corporation | | 9. API Well No. | |
| - | 000, The Woodlands, | TX 77387-4000 (713) 377-5855 | 10. Field and Pool, or Exploratory Area | |
| | e, Sec., T., R., M., or Survey Description | | Wildcat | |
| 1310' FEL a | and 660' FSL | | 11. County or Parish, State | |
| Sec. 25, T. | 22S, R30E | | Eddy County, NM | |
| 12. CHECK A | APPROPRIATE BOX(s) TO | INDICATE NATURE OF NOTICE, REPOR | T, OR OTHER DATA | |
| TYPE OF S | SUBMISSION | TYPE OF ACTION | | |
| X Notice of | Intent | | Change of Plans | |
| | nt Report | Recompletion Plugging Back | New Construction | |
| Subseque | in Report | Casing Repair | Water Shut-Off | |
| Final Aba | andonment Notice | Altering Casing | Conversion to Injection | |
| | | X Other <u>Move Well Location</u> | Dispose Water (Note: Report results of multiple completion on Well Completion or Recompletion Report and Log form.) | |
| Well locati Regulations | 5. | quarter/quarter section line per S Mark N. Stephenson | State of New Mexico | |
| Signed | | | <u>rs</u> Date <u>02-02-93</u> | |
| (This space for Federal o | r State office use) | | | |
| Approved by Conditions of approval, in | f any: | Title | Date | |
| Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, or representations as to any m | | gly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United S | States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statemen | |

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Submit to Appropriate District Office State Lease - 4 copies Fee Lease - 3 copies

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DISTRICT I P.O. Box 1980, Hobbs, NM 88240

DISTRICT II P.O. Drawer DD, Artesia, NM 88210

DISTRICT III 1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410

State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

P.O. Box 2088

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2088

WELL LOCATION AND ACREAGE DEDICATION PLAT

All Distances must be from the outer boundaries of the section

| Operator | | · | | | | | | | Lease | | | | | • <u> </u> | Well No. | | |
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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT New Mexico State Office 1474 Rodeo Rd. P.O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-7115



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NOV 18 1992

Mitchell Energy Corporation Attention: Mr. Mark N. Stephenson 2001 Timberloch Place P. O. Box 4000 The Woodlands, TX 77387-4000

Dear Mr. Stephenson:

This letter is in response to your request for additional information supporting the denial of the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) the Apache 25 Federal Well No. 1.

You state that the reasons for denial are incorrect and the BLM 1984 "Potash Map" shows most of section 25 as barren of minable potash reserves. You contend that the nearest mining operations are over a mile away, and you know of no active or planned mining operations in the immediate vicinity of the proposed drill site.

Rationale for the APD denial.

The Carlsbad Resource Area denied the application due to the proximity of the proposed well site to the potash enclave. The proposed drill site is less than one-half mile from the potash enclave. The one-half mile safety zone is applied for gas wells and one-quarter mile for oil wells.

These distances are in the 1986 Secretary's Order under Section E(4) of the order concerning oil and gas drilling in the potash area, which states "Applications for permits to drill vertical test wells for oil and gas at locations that are in the Potash Area but outside of the State of New Mexico's 'Oil-Potash Area' and which do not directly offset an enclave (within one-quarter mile if an oil test well or one-half mile if a gas test well) shall be routinely processed by the authorized officer."

The well location is within one-half mile of the potash enclave therefore, the approval of this APD is not routine. The well location is approximately 1.7 miles from the existing mine workings of Western Ag Minerals Company. Western Ag has normally performed first or second mining on the east side of the mine. They are performing first mining on the east and west sides of the mine. Therefore, we believe that first and second mining operations will continue to advance toward the proposed well location.

We conclude that the drilling of this well will endanger future mining operations, which will result in undue waste of potash.

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Enclosed, as you requested, is a map of the area in which we believe oil and gas well drilling will not adversely affect potash resources. The areas shown in blue and orange on the map are acceptable for oil well and for oil and/or gas well exploration respectively. This map is based on potash resources. Any new proposed well site must be submitted with a new APD and is subject to a NEPA review.

If you need any additional information, please contact Ray Thompson or Jim Olsen at (505) 438-7500.

Sincerely,

Ma

Joh Larry L. Woodard Btate Director

1 Enclosure



