

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

**APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL AND GAS ASSOCIATION FOR AMENDMENT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 19, CHAPTER 15 OF THE NEW MEXICO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CONCERNING PITS, CLOSED-LOOP SYSTEMS, BELOW GRADE TANKS AND SUMPS AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE METHODS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING AND AMENDING OTHER RULES TO CONFORMING CHANGES, STATEWIDE.**

**CASE NO. 14784**

**APPLICATION OF THE INDEPENDENT PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF NEW MEXICO FOR AMENDMENT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 19, CHAPTER 15 OF THE NEW MEXICO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CONCERNING PITS, CLOSED-LOOP SYSTEMS, BELOW GRADE TANKS, SUMPS AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE METHODS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING AND AMENDING, STATEWIDE.**

**CASE NO. 14785**

**CLOSING ARGUMENTS OF JALAPENO CORPORATION**

The Closing Arguments of Jalapeno Corporation are as follows:

The testimony of the witnesses listed in the table on the following page has been an education about the properties of bentonite clay and the processes of evapotranspiration and of salt movement, accumulation and precipitation and how they work from the vegetation on soil cover, the four foot of soil cover over the pit or trench and the bentonite clay in the drilling mud entombing constituents to the "salt bulge" to protect public health and the environment as shown in the table on the following page.

Material or vegetation	Properties or processes	Testimony by	Transcript
Native kind vegetation and reclamation (4 foot of soil cover)	electrical conductivity of 10 to 24; adapted to arid & semiarid, thus tolerate higher salt levels; evapotranspiration	Dr. Bruce Buchanan	pp. 2313-15, 2345-46, 2375-84, 2387-88, 2392-2402
4 foot of soil cover	evaporative zone depth made the most difference in HELP model output; evapotranspiration	Tom Mullins	pp. 1350-52, 1442-46, 1588-89 1601
Salts	only move upward about one foot; salts diffuse up but flushed down, then come to equilibrium; 4 foot of soil cover sufficient	Dr. Bruce Buchanan	pp. 2309-13, 2340-41
Bentonite clay in drilling mud	entombs TPH, Benzene & Chloride anion; if any leakage, then slow, slow leakage & net effect is minimal	Dr. Ben Thomas	pp. 459-460, 467, 490, 495
"Salt Bulge"	arid/semi-arid climate only drives salt so far as water vapor does not carry salt (not a driver); soluble salt accumulates & precipitates out at about 10 to 20 feet down before getting to groundwater at 50 feet down; not dependant on salt concentration (chemistry of the salts & texture of the soil are also drivers)	Dr. Bruce Buchanan	pp. 2329-45, 2370, 2388-91, 2395-96

Therefore, the Oil Conservation Commission should adopt the Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico's proposed amendments to Pit Rule 17, which have additional offsets and conditions to further protect public health and the environment.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick A. Fort

Patrick A. Fort  
Attorney for Jalapeno Corporation  
P.O. Box 1608  
Albuquerque, NM 87103-1608  
(505) 242-2050  
Email: [patrickfort@msn.com](mailto:patrickfort@msn.com)

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing pleading was filed with the Oil Conservation Commission and served upon the following parties on September 17, 2012 by email:

Florene Davidson  
Oil Conservation Commission  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
Email: [Florene.Davidson@state.nm.us](mailto:Florene.Davidson@state.nm.us)

William F. Carr  
Michael H. Feldewert  
Adam G. Rankin  
Holland & Hart LLP  
P.O. Box 2208  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2208  
Phone: (505) 988-4421  
Fax: (505) 983-6043  
Email: [wcarr@hollandhart.com](mailto:wcarr@hollandhart.com)  
Email: [mfeldewert@hollandhart.com](mailto:mfeldewert@hollandhart.com)  
Email: [agrarkin@hollandhart.com](mailto:agrarkin@hollandhart.com)  
Attorneys for New Mexico Oil & Gas Association

Karin V. Foster  
5805 Mariola Place, NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111  
Telephone: (505) 238-8385  
Email: [Fosterassociates2005@yahoo.com](mailto:Fosterassociates2005@yahoo.com)  
and  
Earl E. DeBrine, Jr.  
Modrall, Sperling, Roehl, Harris, & Sisk, P.A.  
Post Office Box 2168  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-2168  
Telephone: (505) 848-1800  
Facsimile: (505) 848-9710  
Email: [edebrine@modrall.com](mailto:edebrine@modrall.com)  
Attorneys for Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico

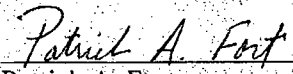
Judith Calman  
142 Truman Street N.E., Suite B-1  
Albuquerque, NM 87108-1371  
Email: [judy@nmwild.org](mailto:judy@nmwild.org)  
Attorney for New Mexico Wilderness Alliance

Gabrielle A. Gerholt  
Assistant General Counsel  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department  
1220 S. St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
(505)-476-3451  
Email: [Gabrielle.gerholt@state.nm.us](mailto:Gabrielle.gerholt@state.nm.us)  
Attorney for the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division

Eric D. Jantz  
R. Bruce Frederick  
New Mexico Environmental Law Center  
1405 Luisa Street, Suite 5  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505  
(505) 989-9022  
Email: [ejantz@nmelc.org](mailto:ejantz@nmelc.org)  
Email: [bfrederick@nmelc.org](mailto:bfrederick@nmelc.org)  
Attorney for Oil and Gas Accountability Project

James Bruce  
Post Office Box 1056  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504  
(505) 982-2043  
Email: [jamesbruc@aol.com](mailto:jamesbruc@aol.com)  
Attorney for Nearburg Producing Company

Dr. Donald A. Neeper  
PO Box 5  
Los Alamos, NM 87544  
Email: [dneeper@earthlink.net](mailto:dneeper@earthlink.net)  
Authorized Representative for New Mexico Citizens for Clean Air & Water

  
Patrick A. Fort