



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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**BILL RICHARDSON**

Governor

**Joanna Prukop**

Cabinet Secretary

**Mark E. Fesmire, P.E.**

Director

**Oil Conservation Division**

January 3, 2007

Mr. David Catanach, Hearing Examiner  
Oil Conservation Division  
1220 South St. Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Hand Delivered

**CASE 13845: AMENDED APPLICATION OF THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION, THROUGH THE ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE MANAGER, FOR A COMPLIANCE ORDER AGAINST PLATINUM EXPLORATION INC. 1) FINDING THAT OPERATOR KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY VIOLATED 19.15.4.201 NMAC AS TO FOUR WELLS AND ASSESSING PENALTIES FOR THOSE VIOLATIONS; 2) REQUIRING OPERATOR TO RETURN SAID WELLS TO COMPLIANCE WITH 19.15.4.201 NMAC BY A DATE CERTAIN; AND 3) AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION TO PLUG SAID WELLS AND FORFEIT THE APPLICABLE FINANCIAL ASSURANCE IN THE EVENT OF NON-COMPLIANCE, LEA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

Dear Mr. Catanach:

The above-captioned matter is currently scheduled for hearing on the January 4, 2007 docket. The Applicant Oil Conservation Division respectfully requests a continuance until the February 1, 2007 docket.

The Oil Conservation Division requests this continuance in order to work with Platinum Exploration Inc. to determine if the matter can be resolved without a hearing. Platinum has contacted undersigned counsel, but has not yet entered an appearance in the case.

Very truly yours,

Gail MacQuesten

Assistant General Counsel

CC: Mr. Hal J. Rasmussen, President, Platinum Exploration, Inc.

Julie Faulkner, West Texas State Bank

EC: Daniel Sanchez, Enforcement and Compliance Manager

FAX: Chuck Finley, Platinum Exploration, Inc.