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September 16, 2003

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Oil Conservation Division

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HAND-DELIVERED

Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Director
Oil Conservation Division
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: Amended Application of El Paso Energy Raton, L.L.C. for Approvals of Non-Standard/Irregular Spacing Units and Certain Non-Standard Setbacks for Unorthodox Well Locations for Coalbed Methane Gas Wells and Any Other Approvals Required for Such Units, Setbacks and Wells in Colfax County, New Mexico - NMOCD Case No. 13097.

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

Please find enclosed the original and two copies of El Paso Energy Raton, L.L.C.'s Withdrawal of Amended Application and Case No. 10397, along with the Certificate of Service.

As disclosed by the Certificate of Service, we are sending by facsimile a copy of this withdrawal to each person copied below and on the Certificate of Service.

We also enclose an extra copy of each of the above, which we ask be conformed with

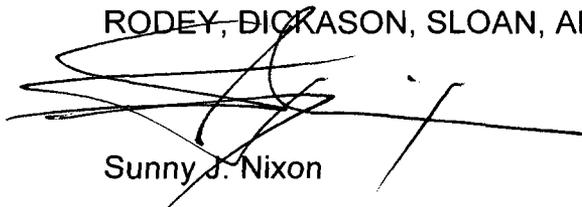
RODEY, DICKASON, SLOAN, AKIN & ROBB, P. A.

Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Director
September 16, 2003
Page 2

the NMOCD date and time stamp and returned to our courier. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

~~RODEY, DICKASON, SLOAN, AKIN & ROBB, P.A.~~

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Sunny J. Nixon", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible due to the cursive nature of the handwriting.

Sunny J. Nixon

SJN/tc
Enclosures

CC: Carsten F. Goff, BLM (by facsimile and hand-delivery)
H. Wayne Thornton, USFS (by facsimile and U.S. Mail)
Martin Chavez, Jr., USFC (by facsimile and U.S. Mail)
Edwin Singleton, BLM (by facsimile and U.S. Mail)
G. Kevin Cunningham (w/encls.)
Paul H. Dowden (w/encls)

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:

AMENDED APPLICATION OF EL PASO ENERGY RATON, L.L.C.
FOR APPROVALS OF NON-STANDARD/IRREGULAR
SPACING UNITS AND CERTAIN NON-STANDARD
SETBACKS FOR UNORTHODOX WELL LOCATIONS
FOR COALBED METHANE GAS WELLS AND ANY
OTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR SUCH UNITS,
SETBACKS AND WELLS IN COLFAX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

CASE NO. 13097

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Oil Conservation Division

WITHDRAWAL OF AMENDED APPLICATION
AND CASE NO. 13097

Applicant El Paso Energy Raton, L.L.C. ("El Paso") hereby withdraws its Amended Application and requests for relief in Case No. 13097 without prejudice to re-file at a later date.

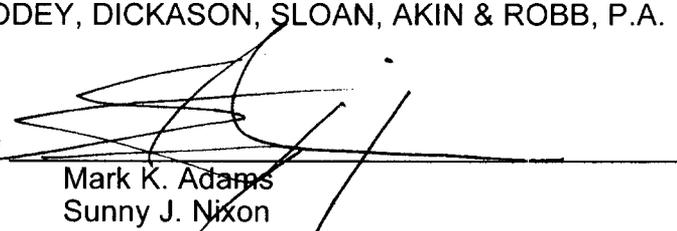
El Paso's withdrawal should not be construed as an admission of concurrence with the Department of Interior—Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) positions on file in this case or a waiver of El Paso's position, as filed in this case, although El Paso will consider the BLM's position set forth in its September 15, 2003 letter to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division.

WVJ
7/10/03

Respectfully submitted,

RODEY, DICKASON, SLOAN, AKIN & ROBB, P.A.

By


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**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. 13097

**AMENDED APPLICATION OF EL PASO ENERGY RATON, L.L.C.
FOR APPROVALS OF NON-STANDARD/IRREGULAR
SPACING UNITS AND CERTAIN NON-STANDARD
SETBACKS FOR UNORTHODOX WELL LOCATIONS
FOR COALBED METHANE GAS WELLS AND ANY
OTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR SUCH UNITS,
SETBACKS AND WELLS IN COLFAX COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.**

*WV
9/16/03*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Withdrawal of Amended Application and Case No. 13097 by El Paso Energy Raton, L.L.C. to be sent by facsimile and hand-delivered to the following this 16th day of September, 2003:

Carsten F. Goff, Deputy State Director
Resource, Planning, Use & Protection
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
New Mexico State Office
1474 Rodeo Road
P. O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115
(505) 438-7458 – Facsimile

and by facsimile and mailed by First Class U. S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following this 16th day of September, 2003:

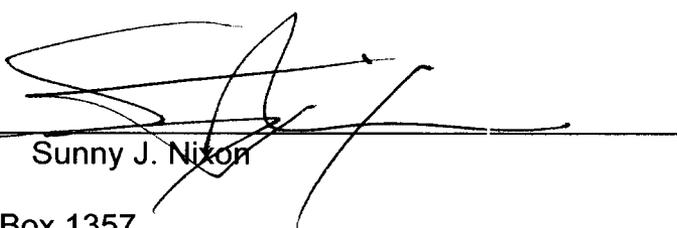
H. Wayne Thornton
Director Land & Minerals
United States Department of Agriculture
United States Forest Service
333 Broadway SE
Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 842-3142 – Facsimile

Martin Chavez, Jr.
Forest Supervisor United States Forest Service
Carson National Forest
208 Cruz Alta Rd.
Taos, NM 87571
(505) 758-6213 – Facsimile

Edwin Singleton, Field Office Manager
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management - Field Office
435 Montano Rd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107-4935
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