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July 7, 1997

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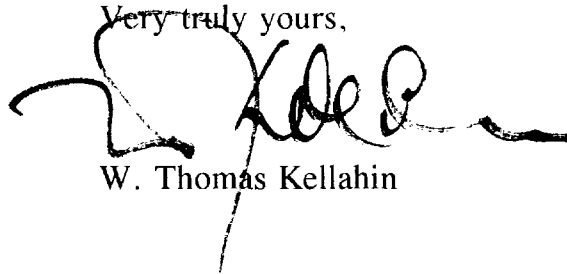
Mr. David R. Catanach
Hearing Examiner
Oil Conservation Division
2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: NMOCD Case 11803
McElvain "31" Federal Well. 1
Application of Nearburg Exploration Company
for Compulsory Pooling and a non-standard
proration and spacing unit
Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Catanach:

On behalf of Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. I would appreciate you continuing the referenced case from the Examiner docket schedule for July 10, 1997 to the Examiner hearing docket now scheduled for August 7, 1997.

Very truly yours,



W. Thomas Kellahin

cfx: Nearburg Exploration Company

Attn: Mike Gray

cfx: James Bruce, Esq.

Attorney for Mewbourne Oil Company