Sonat Exploration Company 110 W Louisiana Suite 500 Midland TX 79701 915 684 0400 915 684 0444 Telecopy

## S@NAT EXPLORATION

March 16, 1998

El Paso Energy Marketing P. O. Box 2511 Houston, Texas 77252-2511

Attn: Mr. John Tracy

RE: Sonat Exploration Company

Request and Application for Blanket Surface

Commingle of Delaware production

Poker Lake Area

Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico

## Gentlemen:

Sonat Exploration Company has filed and application at the State of New Mexico - Department of Energy, Mineral and Natural Resources Oil Conservation Division for approval to Blanket Surface Commingle Delaware production in our Poker Lake Area of Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico.

VIA FAX: 713/757-6256

Attached is a copy of our Application which is scheduled to be heard March 19, 1998, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. As the purchaser of production on these leases, Sonat respectfully requests your waiver of any objection to our application.

If you have no objection to our request, please evidence approval by signing both copies of the waiver statement below and return one (1) letter to my attention at the letterhead address In addition, please fax a copy to our attention at (915) 684-0444 and also to our Santa Fe, NM law firm at (505) 983-6043. Your earliest consideration would be appreciated in light of our Thursday, March 19, 1998, hearing date.

Should you require additional information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 915-684-0417.

Very truly yours,

SONAT EXPLORATION COMPANY

Chad R. Nor

Chad R. Shaw, CPL Senior Landman

El Paso Energy Marketing hereby waives its objection to Sonat's Blanket Surface Commingle request for the Poker Lake Area, Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico.

EL PASO ENERGY MARKETING

Keith Cogen

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Name:

Title:

Date: