



**NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

**OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 827-7131**

April 13, 1998

**James Bruce
Legal Counsel for Ocean Energy, Inc.
P. O. Box 1056
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Telefax No. (505) 982-2151

**Campbell, Carr, Berge & Sheridan, P. A.
Attn: William F. Carr, Legal Counsel for Yates Petroleum Corporation
P. O. Box 2208
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2208**

Telefax No. (505) 983-6043

**Re: Case Nos. 11958 and 11959, Applications of Ocean Energy, Inc.,
and Case No. 11934, Application of Yates Petroleum Company, all
concerning the forced pooling of certain mineral interests and the
dedication of acreage in the southern one-third of irregular Section
2, Township 16 South, Range 35 East, NMPM, Lea County, New
Mexico.**

Dear Messrs. Bruce and Carr:

Reference is made to Mr. Bruce's letter dated April 8, 1998, requesting the continuation of the three aforementioned cases to the April 30, 1998 Division Examiner's docket, and to my meeting with Mr. William F. Carr on Thursday, April 9, 1998. Due to scheduling irregularities and workloads within the Division, the three subject cases will be continued to the **May 14, 1998** Examiner's hearing. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

**Michael E. Stogner
Chief Hearing Officer/Engineer**

cc: New Mexico Oil Conservation Division - Hobbs
File: Case No. 11958
Case No. 11959
Case No. 11934
Rand Carroll, Legal Counsel - OCD, Santa Fe
Florene Davidson - OCD, Santa Fe

JAMES BRUCE
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April 8, 1998

Via Fax and U.S. Mail

Michael E. Stogner
Oil Conservation Division
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: Cases 11,958 and 11,959 (UMC Petroleum Corporation)
Case 11934 (Yates Petroleum Corporation)

Dear Mr. Stogner:

Ocean Energy, Inc. ("OEI," formerly UMC Petroleum Corporation ("UMC")) requests that the above cases¹ be continued for two weeks. The reasons for the request are as follows:

1. Due to recently acquired title information, additional parties have had to be notified of the application in Case 11,959. As a result, the additional parties have not been given the requisite 20 day notice of the hearing date;
2. Due to the merger of UMC into OEI, the applications in Cases 11,958 and 11,959 have had to be amended, and the cases re-advertised; and
3. Two of OEI's witnesses, including the geologist for this prospect, have scheduling conflicts with the April 16th hearing date.

OEI notes that, because of other contested cases scheduled for the April 30th docket, that date may not be convenient for the Division. Please call if you have any questions.

¹The three cases involve the same property.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Bruce".

James Bruce

Attorney for Ocean Energy, Inc.

cc: William F. Carr (via fax)