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July 8, 1998

HAND-DELIVERED

Lori Wrotenbery, Director
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
Minerals and Natural Resources
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

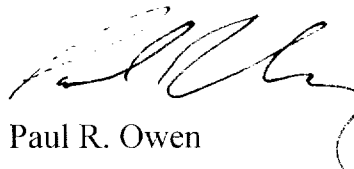
Re: ***Oil Conservation Division Case No. 11976:
Application of Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. for Compulsory
Pooling and an Unorthodox Well Location, Lea County, New Mexico***

Dear Ms Wrotenbery:

Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C., respectfully requests that this matter which is currently set on the Division docket for the July 9, 1998 hearings be continued to the August 6, 1998 Examiner docket.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,


Paul R. Owen

PRO:mlh

cc: Mr. Bob Shelton

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OIL CONSERVATION DIV.