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September 21, 1999

**HAND DELIVERED**

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

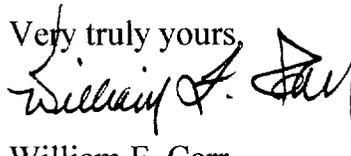
**Re: Case 12186 (De Novo) Application of Chesapeake Operating Inc. for  
compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.**

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery,

Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc., applicant for hearing de novo in the above-referenced case, hereby requests that the hearing scheduled for September 23, 1999, be continued to the October 1999 Commission hearing docket.

Your attention to this request is appreciated.

Very truly yours,



William F. Carr  
Attorney for Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.

cc: W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq.  
Attorney for Chesapeake Operating Inc.