MERIT ENERGY COMPANY

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November 18, 1999

Mr. Mike Stubblefield New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department Oil Conservation Division 811 South First Street Artesia, NM. 88210

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Letter dismissing

RE:

Case No. 12279

Burton Flats No. 1, 2, & 3 Wells

Section 1-T21S-R27E Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stubblefield,

Pursuant to our telephone conversation on November 10, 1999, enclosed you will find (in triplicate) Forms C-103 for the proposed plugging and abandonment of the referenced wells. Merit proposes to plug and abandon these wells within 60 days after approval from the NMOCD.

It is my understanding the hearing for this case has been postponed until December 3rd. As I explained in our conversation, Merit Energy Company cannot locate the 1997 NMOCD notices to plug and abandon these wells. We received a copy of the October 15, 1999 notice of the hearing from our insurance company.

Merit Energy Company strives to be diligent in all its operations and continues to be an active producer in New Mexico. Merit agrees to plug the referenced wells and, therefore, respectfully requests the NMOCD to withdraw its application for the plugging and forfeiture of bond.

Should you need any additional information, please advise this office or call me at (972) 383-6558. Thank you again for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

MERIT ENERGY COMPANY

Arlene Valliquette

Manager - Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures (9)

cc:

Rand Carroll – NMOCD Mike Dill - Travelers