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PLEASE REPLY TO SANTA FE

April 18, 2000

BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION: 1-505-827-8177

Mark Ashley
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

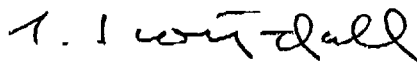
Re: Application of David H. Arrington Oil & Gas, Inc. for an Unorthodox Gas Well
Location, Lea County, New Mexico; NMOCD Case No. 12381

Dear Mr. Ashley:

I was recently requested to enter an appearance in this case on behalf of Merit Energy Company and Permian Resources, Inc., working interest owners in offsetting lease acreage who oppose the proposed unorthodox well location. The case is presently set for the April 20, 2000 hearing docket. However, I am both traveling out of town this week and am preparing for a weeklong trial that begins next Monday, April 24th. Consequently, I am unable to attend the Division's hearing on April 20th and would correspondingly request that the matter be continued to the next examiner hearing on May 4, 2000. If the Division is unable to continue this case as requested, I ask to be advised as soon as possible so I can make arrangements for substitute counsel for Merit and Permian.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,



J. Scott Hall

JSH/ao

cc: Jim Bruce (by facsimile transmission)
Randy Stevens, Permian Resources, Inc. (by facsimile transmission)
Fred Dean, Merit Energy Company (by facsimile transmission)

Permian&Merit Ashleytr.doc

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: April 18, 2000

TO: Mark Ashley

FAX NO.: 827-8177

FROM: J. Scott Hall, Esq.

OPERATOR: Amanda Olsen

MESSAGE:

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 2

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