



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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Jennifer A. Salisbury

Cabinet Secretary

August 30, 2001

Lori Wrotenbery

Director

Oil Conservation Division

James Bruce
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Michael H. Feldewert
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P.O. Box 2208
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Re: Case No. 12698, *de novo*
In the Matter of the Application of Mewbourne Oil Company for Compulsory
Pooling, Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Counsel,

I am in receipt of Mr. Bruce's letter of August 29, 2001 requesting that this matter be docketed for hearing on September 14, 2001. Mr. Bruce points out that his client has rig availability problems and if the case were heard during the October docket his client would be adversely affected.

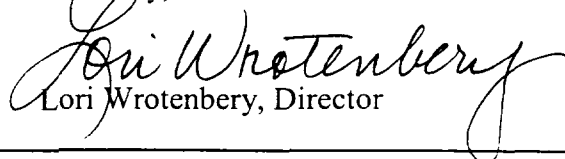
I also understand that Mr. Feldewert objects to the case being heard on that date.

Though the *de novo* case was not filed until after the usual deadline for the September docket, it is nevertheless possible to advertise the case and hear it in September.

While I try to be sensitive to the scheduling needs of litigants and attorneys who appear before this body, in this case the equities seem to weigh in favor of Mewbourne's request --- because of the potential for prejudice. Moreover, the Commission and the Division are mindful that they best serve the interests of the industry and the state by hearing and deciding cases promptly.

I find Mr. Bruce's request supported by good cause. Mr. Bruce's request is granted and this matter will be docketed for hearing before the Commission on September 14, 2001.

Sincerely,


Lori Wrotenbery, Director