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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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> OF COUNSEL C M CALHOUN' MACK EASLEY JOE W WOOD RICHARD S MORRIS

WASHINGTON, D.C. SPECIAL COUNSEL

February 22, 1993

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LEWIS C COX
PAUL W. EATON
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Michael E. Stogner Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

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WILLIAM P JOHNSON
STANLEY K KOTCYSKY, JR
H R THOMAS
FLIEN S CASEY

ELLEN S CASEY
MARGARET CARTER LUDEWIG

Case No. 10,635 (Mewbourne Oil Company

Compulsory Pooling Application)

Dear Mr. Stogner:

Enclosed is an Affidavit Regarding Notice pertaining to the Amended Application herein. This matter was taken under advisement at the February 18 hearing.

Very truly yours,

HINKLE, COX, EATON, COFFIELD & HENSLEY

James Bruce

JB:frs Enclosure

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

APPLICATION OF MEWBOURNE OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING AND AN UNORTHODOX GAS WELL LOCATION, EDD! COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

Case No. 10,635

AFFIDAVIT REGARDING NOTICE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO))ss.
COUNTY OF SAN'TA FE)

James Bruce, being duly sworn upon his oath, deposes and states:

- 1. I am over the age of 18 and have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein.
 - 2. I am an attorney for Applicant herein.
- 3. Applicant has conducted a good faith, diligent effort to find the correct addresses of interest owners entitled to receive notice of the Amended Application herein.
- 4. Notice of the Amended Application was provided to the interest owners at their correct addresses by mailing them, by certified mail, a copy of the Amended Application. Copies of the notice letters and certified return receipts are attached hereto.
- 5. The notice provisions of Rule 1207 have been complied with.

JAME/S BRUCE

SUBSCRIFED AND SWORN TO before me this 200 day of February, 1993, by James Bruce.

Notary Public

My/commission expires; 44.

JGB5\93394.d

ifake

KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EL PATIO BUILDING

117 NORTH GUADALUPE

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W THOMAS KELLAHIN*

*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2265

January 5, 1993

<u>VIA FACSIMILE</u> (505) 827-5741

Mr. David R. Catanach Hearing Examiner Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Robert G. Stovall, Esq. Attorney Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Re: MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE

NMOCD Case 10635

Application of Mewbourne Oil Company
for Compulsory Pooling and an Unorthodox Gas
Well Location, Eddy County, New Mexico

Gentlemen:

On behalf of Marathon Oil Company I hereby request that the referenced case be continued from January 7, 1993 to the Examiner hearing set for January 21, 1993 for the following reasons:

- (1) On December 16, 1992, I filed a Motion to Dismiss NMOCD Case 10635 and Case 10636 on the grounds that Mewbourne had filed its compulsory pooling case prior to proposing the subject wells to Marathon (See copy attached).
- (2) On December 17, 1992, Mewbourne continued both cases until January 7, 1993 in order for the parties to discuss a settlement.

- (3) Marathon has not been able to reach a voluntary settlement with Mewbourne at this time.
- (4) In order to have time to adequately prepare to oppose this case, Marathon requests that the case be continued until the hearing set for January 21, 1993.
- (5) Attempts to reach opposing counsel by telephone this afternoon have been unsuccessful and it is unknown if the Motion is contested.

Very thuly yours

W. Thomas Kellahin

cc: Via facsimile to Jim Bruce, Esq.

HINKLE, COX, EATON, COFFIELD & HENSLEY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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₩ E BONDURANT JR (1913-1973) ROY C SNODGRASS, JR (1914-1987)

of Counsel JOE W WOOD RICHARD S MORRIS

> WASHINGTON, D.C. SPECIAL COUNSEL

December 18, 1992

700 UNITED BANK PLAZA POST OFFICE BOX IO ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO 88202 (505) 622-6510 FAX (505) 623-9332

2800 CLAYDESTA CENTER 6 DESTA DRIVE POST OFFICE BOX 3580 MIDLAND, TEXAS 79702 (915) 683-4691 FAX (915) 683-6518

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*NOT LICENSED IN NEW MEXICO

THOMAS J MCBRIDE

STEVEN D ARNOLD JAMES J WECHSLER NANCY S CUSACK DEFFREY L FORRACIAP JEFFREY D HEWETT JAMES BRUCE JERRY F SHACKELFORD LEFREY W HELLBERG ALBERT L PITS THOMAS M HNASKO JOHN C GHAMBERS SARY D COMPTON MICHAEL A GROSS

MICHAEL A GROSS
THOMAS D HAINES JR
GREGORY J NIBERT
DAVID T MARKETTE*
MARK C DOW

HAVE W EATON CONTROL OF RED W SCHWENDIMA DAVES M HUDSON LEFFREY S BAIRDY MACDONNELL GORDON MACDONNELL GORDON MACDONNELL GORDON STANLEY K KOTOVSKY AND JOHN J KELLY NELLY MULLIAM B BUTTORON MACDONNELL GORDON STANLEY K KOTOVSKY AND JOHN J KELLY NICHOLAS J NOEDNOG TO CALDER EZZELL JR WILLIAM S BUTTORON MICHORO TO COLON MICHARD R WILEPONS*

INCHARD R WILEPONS*

INCHARD

KAREN M. RICHARDSON FRED W SCHWENDIMA IN JAMES M HUDSON JEFFREY'S BAIRD*

JEFREY'S BAIRDY
MACDONNELL GORDON
REBECCA NICHOLS JOHNSON
WILLIAM P JOHNSON
STANLEY'K KOTOVSKY JR
H R THOMAS
KARA L KELLOGG

MARGARET CARTER .. DEW G

STEPHEN M GRAMPTON MARTIN MEYERS

MARTIN MEYERS
OPESORY S WHEELEF
ANDREW J CLOUTEP
JAMES A CILLESPIE
GARY W LARSON
STEPHAN E LANDRY
JCHN R ALISSEM, JA
MARGARET R MONET'
BRIAN T CARTWRIGHT'
LISA K SM "H"
JAMES KENT SCHUSTER*
POBERT H BETLEAT

POBERT H BETHEAT BRADLEY W HOWARD CHARLES A SUTTON

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. P 690 034 906 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Marathon Oil Company Post Office Box 552 Midland, Texas 79702

Attention: Randal P. Wilson

Oil Conservation Division Case No. 10,635, The Application of Mewbourne Oil Company for Compulsory Pooling and an Unorthodox Gas Well Location, E2 of Section 15, Township 18 South, Range 28 East, N.M.P.M., Eddy County, New

Mexico

Gentlemen:

The above case was scheduled to be heard by the Conservation Division on December 17, 1992, in Santa Fe, New Mexico; a copy of the application was previously sent to you. The case has been continued to the hearing docket scheduled for 8:15 a.m. on January 7, 1993, at the Oil Conservation Division's office located at 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501. Failure to appear at that time will preclude you from contesting the matter at a later date.

Mewbourne Oil Company would like to obtain your commitment to the well, or obtain a farmout of your interest in the proposed well

 Complete items 3, and 4a & 0. Print your name and address on the reverse of this that we can return this card to you. Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or of back if space does not permit. Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece the article number. 	1. Addressee's Address	
3. Article Addressed to:	4a. Article Number	
Marathon Oil Company	P 690 034 906	
Post Office Box 552 Midland, TX 79702	4b. Service Type ☐ Registered ☐ Insured	
marana, m 75702	Certified ☐ COD	
	☐ Express Mail ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise	
	7. Date of Delivery	
5. Signature (Addressee)	8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)	
6. Signardure (Agent)		
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PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

Print your name, address and ZIP Code here
 Hinkle, Cox, Eaton, Coffield
 & Hensley
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Santa Fe, NM 87504-2068

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Marathon Oil Company December 18, 1992 Page Two

unit. If you are interested, please contact Paul Haden at Mewbourne Oil Company, (915) 682-3715.

Very truly yours,

HINKLE, COX, EATON, COFFIELD

& HENSLEY

James Bruce

Attorneys for Mewbourne Oil

Company

JB:frs

KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EL PATIO BUILDING 117 NORTH GUADALUPE

POST OFFICE BOX 2265

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2265

December 16, 1992

DIL GONSER. OM DIVISION

'92 DE 2: 11 9 41 TELEPHONE (505) 982-4285 TELEFAX (505) 982-2047

JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

W THOMAS KELLAHIN*

VIA FACSIMILE

(505) 827-5741

Mr. Michael E. Stogner Hearing Examiner New Mexico Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail Post Office Box 2088 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

CO 1

MOTION TO DISMISS RE:

NMOCD Cases 10635 and 10636 Applications (of Mewbourne Oil Company for Compulsory Pooling and Unorthodox Gas Well Locations, Eddy County,

New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stogner:

Our firm was retained this morning by Marathon Oil Company ("Marathon") concerning the two referenced pooling cases now on the docket for hearing on December 17, 1992. Those cases were filed by Mewbourne Oil Company ("Mewbourne") which is represented by Mr. James Bruce, Esq.

On behalf of Marathon Oil Company, we hereby move that the Division dismiss Case 10635 and Case 10636 and in support state:

- (1) By letter dated October 8, 1992, Mewbourne requested a multi-tract farmout of Marathon's interests in some 1200 acres located in various tracts in T17S, R28E and T18S, R28E, Eddy County, New Mexico;
- (2) By letter dated November 5, 1992, Marathon informed Mewbourne it was not interested in the proposed Mewbourne farmout;

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Mr. Michael E. Stogner Hearing Examiner December 16, 1992 Page 2

- (3) On November 16, 1992, Mewbourne filed its compulsory pooling application with the Oil Conservation Division seeking to have Marathon's interest pooled.
- (4) On December 14, 1992, Marathon received notification of the proposed pooling of its interest and the scheduled hearing to be held three days later on December 17, 1992.
- (5) Mewbourne has not yet submitted to Marathon an AFE for either well;
- (6) Mewbourne has not yet afforded to Marathon an opportunity to form on a voluntary basis a spacing unit for either of the two subject wells;
- (7) Mewbourne has not sought Marathon's concurrence for drilling of either well at the proposed unorthodox well locations described in the Division docket;
- (8) Mewbourne has not submitted to Marathon a proposed Joint Operating Agreement for either well or its corresponding spacing unit;
- (9) Mewbourne has not provided Marathon with any geologic or engineering data to support the drilling of this well or to justify its location.
- (10) Contrary to the custom and practice of the Division and in violation of Section 70-2-17 (c) NMSA (1978), Mewbourne prematurely instituted compulsory pooling action against Marathon without first undertaking a good faith and reasonable effort to form a spacing unit on a voluntarily basis for the drilling of the subject wells at their proposed locations;
- (11) Mewbourne seeks to use the compulsory pooling statute as a negotiation strategy against Marathon rather than as a remedy of last resort when all efforts for obtaining a voluntary agreement have failed.

Mr. Michael E. Stogner Hearing Examiner December 16, 1992 Page 3

(12) The Mewbourne applications are premature and must be dismissed.

WHEREFORE, Marathon requests that the Division Hearing Examiner grant this Motion and dismiss Oil Conservation Division Cases 10635 and 10636.

Respectfully submitted,

KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN

W. Thomas Kellahin Attorneys for Marathon Oil Company

WTK/jcl

cc: Via Facsimile

James Bruce, Esq. (505/982-8623) Marathon Oil Company

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