KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN and AUBREY

Attorneys at Law

W. Thomas Kellahin Karen Aubrey

Iason Kellahin Of Counsel

El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265

Santa Fé, New Mexico 87504-2265 January 3, 1988

Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

Mr. William J. LeMay Director

Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail. Room 206

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Application of Meridian Oil, Inc.

for Compulsory Pooling

Well Name: Caperton Com #310 San Juan County, New Mexico

RECEIVED

JAN

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Case 9595

Dear Mr. LeMay:

On behalf of Meridian Oil, Inc., please find enclosed our Application for Compulsory Pooling which we would request be set for hearing on the next available Examiner's docket now scheduled for February 1, 1989.

By copy of this letter to all parties to be pooled, we notifying them by certified mail-return receipt, that they have the right to appear at the hearing, to make a statement to the Division, to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses either in support of or in opposition to the Applica-Those parties are directed to contact the Division or the applicant's attorney to determine what additional rights they may have. In addition, they are advised that the entry of a Compulsory Pooling Order will affect their right to share in the production from the subject well.

Thomas Kellahin

WTK/dm Encl.

cc: Mr. Allen Alexander

Certified Mail-Return Receipt to all parties listed on Exhibit A of the Application, w/encl.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED

JAN 4 man

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

CASE: 9595

APPLICATION

COMES NOW, MERIDIAN OIL, INC., by and through its attorneys, Kellahin, Kellahin and Aubrey, and in accordance with Section 70-2-17(c) NMSA (1978) applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order pooling all mineral interest in the Basin Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the E/2 of Section 32, T30N, R8W, San Juan County, New Mexico. The above described unit is to be dedicated to its Caperton Com #310 Well to be drilled to a depth of approximately 2830 feet at standard well location in said Section 32, and in support thereof would show:

- Applicant is a working interest owner in the E/2 of Section 32, T30N R8W.
- 2. Applicant desires to drill a well at a standard location 790' FNL and 1130' FEL in the NE/4NE/4 of the Section 32.

- 3. Applicant, has sought a voluntary agreement with all those parties shown on Exhibit "A" for the formation of appropriate spacing and proration unit as shown on Exhibit B for the drilling of the subject well but has been unable to obtain a voluntary agreement.
- 4. Pursuant to the Division notice requirements, applicant has notified all those parties shown on Exhibit "A" of this application for compulsory pooling and the applicant's request for a hearing before the Division to be set on February 1, 1988.
- 5. In order to obtain its just and equitable share of the potential production underlying the above tract, applicant needs an order pooling the mineral interests involved in order to protect applicant's correlative rights and prevent waste.

WHEREFORE, applicant prays that this application be set for hearing before the Division's duly appointed examiner, and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order pooling the mineral interest described herein. Applicant further prays that it be named operator of the well, and that the order make provisions for applicant to recover out of production its costs of drilling, completing and equipping the subject well, costs of operation, including costs of supervision, and a risk factor in the amount of 200% for the drilling and completing of the well, for such other and further relief as may be proper.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Thomas Kellahin

Kellahin, Kellahin & Aburey P.O. Box 2265

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

Operator
50.00000%
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CAPERTON COM #310

KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN and AUBREY

Attorneys at Law

W. Thomas Kellahin Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin Of Counsel El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265

Santa Fé, New Mexico 87504-2265 January 3, 1988 Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

Mr. William J. LeMay
Director
Oil Conservation Division
310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 206
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Case 9595

Re: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc. for Compulsory Pooling
Well Name: Caperton Com #310
San Juan County, New Mexico

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Dear Mr. LeMay:

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Very truly yours,

Original signed by W. THOMAS KELLAHIN

W. Thomas Kellahin

WTK/dm Encl.

cc: Mr. Allen Alexander

Certified Mail-Return Receipt to all parties listed on Exhibit A of the Application, w/encl.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

QIL CONSERVATION OF A STATE OF

Janet .

CASE: 9595

APPLICATION

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Respectfully submitted,

W. Thomas Kellahin

Kellahin, Kellahin & Aburey P.O. Box 2265

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

Meridian Oil Ine. _c/o Land Department _ Meridian Oil Production Inc. P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289	Operator
El Paso Production Company c/o Land Department Meridian-Oil Production Inc. P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289	50.000000%
Tenneco Oil Company Post Office Box 3249 Englewood, Colorado 80155	6.250000%
Conoco Inc. Post Office Box 460 Hobbs, New Mexico 88240	5.437500%
FMP Operating Company Post Office Box 60004 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160	0.813500%
Texaco Producing Inc. Post Office Box 3109 Midland, Texas 79702	25.000000%
Mr. Donald Turrietta Post Office Box 665 Albuqueruqe, New Mexico 87103	12.500000%

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KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN and AUBREY

Attorneys at Law

El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265

Santa Fé, New Mexico 87504-2265 January 3, 1988 Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

' Mr. William J. LeMay
Director
Oil Conservation Division
310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 206
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

RECEIVED Care 9595

JAN 4 B

Re: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc.

for Compulsory Pooling

Well Name: Caperton Com #310 San Juan County, New Mexico OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Dear Mr. LeMay:

W. Thomas Kellahin

Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin

Of Counsel

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Very truly yours,

Original signed by W. Thomas Kellahin

W. Thomas Kellahin

WTK/dm Encl.

cc: Mr. Allen Alexander

Certified Mail-Return Receipt to all parties listed on Exhibit A of the Application, w/encl.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

JAN 4

DIL CONSERVATION DIVISION CASE: 959

APPLICATION

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Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

Meridian Oil Inc. -c/o Land Department Meridian Oil Production Inc. P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289	Operator
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Texaco Producing Inc. Post Office Box 3109 Midland, Texas 79702	25.000000%
Mr. Donald Turrietta Post Office Box 665 Albuqueruqe, New Mexico 87103	12.500000%

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CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY:

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

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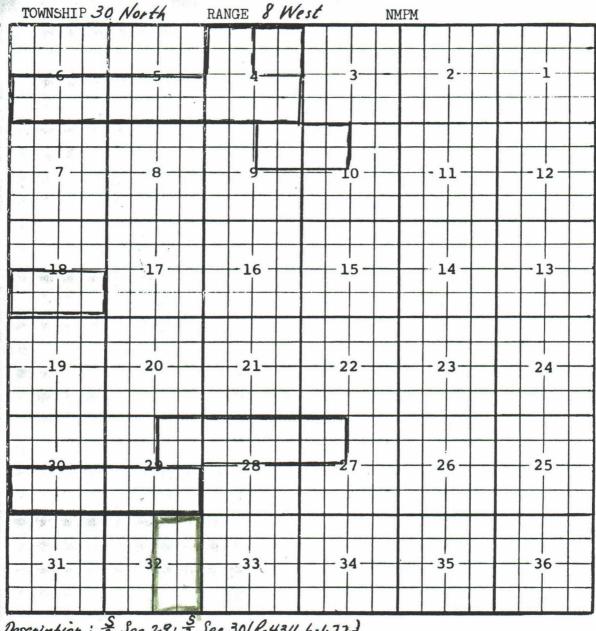
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION P. O. BOX 2088

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 37501

Form C-102 Revised 10-1-78

		All distances must be	from the outer boundaries of	t the Section.		· 		
Operator	dian Oil Co		Caperton	B-10037	_65	Well No.		
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Description: & Sec. 29; & Sec. 30/R-43/1, 6-1-72)

Ext: 5/2 and NW/4 Sec. 4, 5/2 Sec. 5, 5/2 Sec. 6, 5/2 Sec. 18 (R-8180, 3-14-86)

Ext: NE/4 Sec. 4, NE/4 Sec. 9, NW/4 Sec. 10, NW/4 Sec. 27, N/2 Sec. 28, NE/4 Sec. 29

(R-8273, 8-6-86) REDESIGNATED (R-8669, 10/10/188)

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

GARREY CARRUTHERS
GEVERNOR

February 23, 1989



Thomas Kellahin Re: Abllahia, Kellahin & Aubrey Attorness at Law Post Office Box 2265 Santa Fe, New Mexico	CASE NO. 9595 ORDER NO. R-8879 Applicant: Meridian Oil, Inc.
Dear Sir:	
Enclosed herewith are two copies of Division order recently entered in	
Sincerely,	
Florene Llavidson FLORENE DAVIDSON OC Staff Specialist	
Copy of order also sent to:	
Hobbs OCD x Artesia OCD x Aztec OCD x Other Mr. William F. Carr	

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS, AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE CIL CONSERVATION DIVISION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

CASE NO. 9595 Order No. R-8879

APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on February 1, 1989, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner David R. Catanach.

NOW, on this 22nd day of February, 1989, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice having been given as required by 'law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) Division Case Nos. 9593, 9594, 9595, 9596, 9598, and 9599 were consolidated at the time of the hearing for the purpose of testimony.

CASE NO. 9595 Order No. R-8879 Page -2-

- (3) The applicant, Meridian Oil, Inc. (Meridian), seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the E/2 of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 8 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, to be dedicated to its Caperton Com Well No. 310 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location 790 feet from the North line and 1130 feet from the East line (Unit A) of said Section 32.
- (4) Amoco Production Company (Amoco), an interest owner in the proposed proration unit who has not agreed to pool its interest, appeared at the hearing in opposition to the applicant's proposed 200 percent risk penalty.
- (5) The applicant has the right to drill and proposes to drill a well at a standard coal gas well location as described above.
- (6) To avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, to protect correlative rights, to avoid waste, and to afford to the owner of each interest in said unit the opportunity to recover or receive without unnecessary expense his just and fair share of the production in any pool completion resulting from this order, the subject application should be approved by pooling all mineral interests, whatever they may be, within said unit.
- (7) The applicant should be designated the operator of the subject well and unit.
- (8) Any non-consenting working interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production.

CASE NO. 9595 Order No. R-8879 Page -3-

- (9) The applicant has proposed a 200 percent risk penalty be assessed against those interest owners subject to the force-pooling provisions of this order, and in support: thereof presented evidence and testimony at the hearing.
- (10) At the request of Amoco, Administrative Notice was taken of 13 compulsory pooling cases in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool brought before and heard by the Division upon the application of Meridian Oil Inc. on November 21, 1988 and January 15, 1989 (of which Division Orders have subsequently been issued).
- (11) The records in these cases indicate that, based upon the evidence and testimony presented, Meridian was granted a risk penalty of 156 percent.
- (12) The records further indicate that in each of these previously heard cases, Meridian also requested a 200 percent risk penalty, but that the risk penalty awarded was reduced due to the fact that the presence of coal at each of the wellsites was not deemed by the Division to be in question, and therefore should not be taken into consideration in determining risk.
- (13) Meridian, in the immediate cases, has proposed that the risk penalty be based upon geologic, reservoir, economic, and operational parameters and has further testified that the major consideration in determining risk should not be the presence of coal but the characteristics of the coal encountered which in turn has a direct bearing on the producing capability of the wells.
- (14) The applicant, which has drilled approximately 200 coal gas wells in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool to date, provided no evidence or testimony which would indicate that any of its wells have been plugged and abandoned due to non-productivity.

CASE NO. 9595 Order No. R-8879 Page -4-

- (15) The applicant further provided no evidence or testimony which would indicate that any of the wells drilled to date have been plugged and abandoned due to problems encountered while drilling or completing these wells.
- (16) The applicant has included certain factors such as market demand, water disposal, gathering facilities and equipment, etc. under its economic and operations risk parameters which do not have a bearing on the producing capability of any given well and should therefore not be considered in assessing risk.
- (17) Based upon the evidence and testimony presented in the immediate cases and consideration of the record in the previously heard compulsory pooling cases described in Finding No. (10) above, a risk penalty of 156 percent is fair and reasonable and should be adopted in this case.
- (18) Any non-consenting working interest owner who does not pay his share of estimated well costs should have withheld from production his share of the reasonable well costs plus an additional 156 percent thereof as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well.
- (19) Any non-consenting interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to object to the actual well costs but actual well costs should be adopted as the reasonable well costs in the absence of such objection.
- (20) Following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner who has paid his share of estimated costs should pay to the operator any amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and should receive from the operator any amount that paid estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

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- (21) \$3500.00 per month while drilling and \$350.00 per month while producing should be fixed as reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates); the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charges attributable to each nonconsenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating the subject well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.
- (22) All proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason should be placed in escrow to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership.
- (23) Upon the failure of the operator of said pooled unit to commence the drilling of the well to which said unit is dedicated on or before June 1, 1989, the order pooling said unit should become null and void and of no effect whatsoever.
- (24) Should all the parties to this forced pooling reach voluntary agreement subsequent to entry of this order, this order shall thereafter be of no further effect.
- (25) The operator of the well and unit shall notify the Director of the Division in writing of the subsequent voluntary agreement of all parties subject to the forced pooling provisions of this order.

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IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) All mineral interests, whatever they may be, in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the E/2 of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 8 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, are hereby pooled forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, to be dedicated to the Caperton Com Well No. 310 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location 790 feet from the North line and 1130 feet from the East line (Unit A) of said Section 32.

PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT, the operator of said unit shall commence the drilling of said well on or before the 1st day of June, 1989, and shall thereafter continue the drilling of said well with due diligence to a depth sufficient to test the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, in the event said operator does not commence the drilling of said well on or before the 1st day of June, 1989, Ordering Paragraph No. (1) of this order shall be null and void and of no effect whatsoever, unless said operator obtains a time extension from the Division for good cause shown.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, should said well not be drilled to completion, or abandonment, within 120 days after commencement thereof, said operator shall appear before the Division Director and show cause why Ordering Paragraph No. (1) of this order should not be rescinded.

(2) Meridian Oil, Inc. is hereby designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

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- (3) After the effective date of this order and within 90 days prior to commencing said well, the operator shall furnish the Division and each known working interest owner : in the subject unit an itemized schedule of estimated well costs.
- (4) Within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, any non-consenting working interest owner shall have the right to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production, and any such owner who pays his share of estimated well costs as provided above shall remain liable for operating costs but shall not be liable for risk charges.
- known working interest owner an itemized schedule of actual well costs within 90 days following completion of the well; if no objection to the actual well costs is received by the Division and the Division has not objected within 45 days following receipt of said schedule, the actual well costs shall be the reasonable well costs; provided however, if there is objection to actual well costs within said 45-day period the Division will determine reasonable well costs after public notice and hearing.
- (6) Within 60 days following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner who has paid his share of estimated well costs in advance as provided above shall pay to the operator his pro rata share of the amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and shall receive from the operator his pro rata share of the amount that estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

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- (7) The operator is hereby authorized to withhold the following costs and charges from production:
 - (A) The pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, and
 - (B) As a charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well, 156 percent of the pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.
- (8) The operator shall distribute said costs and charges withheld from production to the parties who advanced the well costs.
- (9) \$3500.00 per month while drilling and \$350.00 per month while producing are hereby fixed as reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates); the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charges attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating such well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

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- (10) Any unleased mineral interest shall be considered a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/8) royalty interest for the purpose of allocating costs and charges under the terms of this order.
- (11) Any well costs or charges which are to be paid out of production shall be withheld only from the working interest's share of production, and no costs or charges shall be withheld from production attributable to royalty interests.
- (12) All proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason shall immediately be placed in escrow in San Juan County, New Mexico, to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership; the operator shall notify the Division of the name and address of said escrow agent within 30 days from the date of first deposit with said escrow agent.
- (13) Should all parties to this forced pooling order reach voluntary agreement subsequent to entry of this order, this order shall thereafter be of no further effect.
- (14) The operator of the well and unit shall notify the Director of the Division in writing of the subsequent voluntary agreement of all parties subject to the forced pooling provisions of this order.
- (15) Jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the 'entry of such further orders as the Division may deemnecessary.

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DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION/DIVISION

WILLIAM J. LEMAY

Director

S E A L