## R. T. HICKS CONSULTANTS, LTD.

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HOBBS OCD

June 4, 2014

JUN 0 4 2014

Mr. Geoffrey Leking NMOCD District 1 1625 French Drive Hobbs, NM 88240 VIA EMAIL

RECEIVED

RE:

Murchison – Jackson Unit 14H Temporary Pit

**Extension Request for Closure** 

Unit D, Section 15, T24S, R33E, API #30-025-41072

Dear Mr. Leking:

On behalf of Murchison Oil and Gas, R.T. Hicks Consultants respectfully requests a 3-month extension for the closure of the above-referenced temporary pit. As explained during our phone conversation last week, we would like additional time to resample the pit cuttings.

The first sampling event on 2/12/2014 resulted in concentrations of TPH and GRO+DRO that did not meet Table II criteria. The pit was resampled on 4/2/2014 and GRO+DRO criteria were still not met. Discrete samples were collected from the outer cell of the pit on 4/23/2014 and calculated values for closure using 3 parts mixing dirt plus 1 part pit cuttings determined that stabilized cuttings would now meet Table II GRO+DRO concentration limits.

The validity of calculated values for closure was the subject of a 5/21/2014 meeting between Murchison, Hicks Consultants, and NMOCD. With the understanding that the use of calculated values for closure has yet to be resolved, we will resample this pit today for further confirmation and to allow further discussion of the issue. The rig was released from this site on 12/7/2013, making the closure deadline 6/7/2014. A 3-month extension would create a new deadline of 9/7/2014.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

R.T. Hicks Consultants

Kristin Pope

**Project Geologist** 

Copy: Murchison Oil and Gas

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NM State Land Office, Terry Warnell