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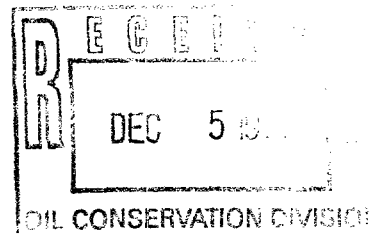
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December 5, 1997

HAND-DELIVERED

William J. LeMay, Director
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
Minerals and Natural Resources
2040 South Pacheco
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503



Re: ***Oil Conservation Division Case No. 11844 (De Novo):
Application of Chesapeake Operating, Inc., for an Unorthodox Oil Well
Location, Lea County, New Mexico***

Dear Mr. LeMay:

Marathon Oil Company respectfully requests that this matter which is currently set on the Commission docket for the December 11, 1997 hearings be dismissed.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. CARR
WFC:mlh

cc: Mr. Tom Lowry
Jim Bruce, Esq.