

EXHIBIT A

Chesapeake Operating Inc.
Post Office Box 18496
Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496

Chalfant Properties
c/o Bill Chalfant
Post Office Box 3123
Midland, TX 79702

**BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Case No. 11861 Exhibit No. 8

Submitted by: Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C.

Hearing Date: October 9, 1997

CAMPBELL, CARR, BERGE
& SHERIDAN, P.A.
LAWYERS

MICHAEL B. CAMPBELL
WILLIAM F. CARR
BRADFORD C. BERGE
MARK F. SHERIDAN
MICHAEL H. FELDEWERT
ANTHONY F. MEDEIROS
PAUL R. OWEN

JACK M. CAMPBELL
OF COUNSEL

JEFFERSON PLACE
SUITE 1110 NORTH GUADALUPE
POST OFFICE BOX 2208
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-2208
TELEPHONE: (505) 988-4421
FACSIMILE: (505) 983-6043
E-MAIL: ccbspa@ix.netcom.com

September 15, 1997

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
Post Office Box 18496
Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496

Re: Application of Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. for Compulsory Pooling,
Lea County, New Mexico

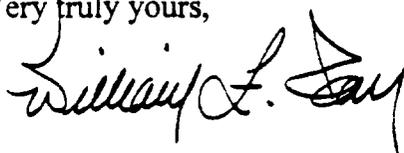
Gentlemen:

This letter is to advise you that Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C., has filed the enclosed application with the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division seeking the force pooling of all mineral interests in certain spacing units in all formations from the surface to the base of the Strawn formation, in Section 19, Township 16 South, Range 36 East, N.M.P.M., Lea County, New Mexico. Nearburg Exploration Company proposes to dedicate the referenced pooled unit to its Gandy 19 Well No. 1 to be drilled at a standard location 810 feet from the North line and 660 feet from the East line of said Section 19.

This application has been set for hearing before a Division Examiner on October 9, 1997. You are not required to attend this hearing, but as an owner of an interest that may be affected by this application, you may appear and present testimony. Failure to appear at that time and become a party of record will preclude you from challenging the matter at a later date.

Parties appearing in cases have been requested by the Division (Memorandum 2-90) to file a Prehearing Statement substantially in the form prescribed by the Division. Prehearing statements should be filed by 4:00 o'clock p.m. on the Friday before a scheduled hearing.

Very truly yours,



WILLIAM F. CARR
ATTORNEY FOR NEARBURG EXPLORATION COMPANY, L.L.C
WFC:mlh
Enc.

Is your **RETURN ADDRESS** completed on the reverse side?

SENDER:

- Complete items 1 and/or 2 for additional services.
- Complete items 3, 4a, and 4b.
- Print your name and address on the reverse of this form so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this form to the front of the mailpiece, or on the back if space does not permit.
- Write "Return Receipt Requested" on the mailpiece below the article number.
- The Return Receipt will show to whom the article was delivered and the date delivered.

3. Article Addressed to:

Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
Post Office Box 18496
Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496

5. Received By: (Print Name)

X *[Signature]*

6. Signature: (Addressee or Agent)

PS Form 3811, December 1994

- I also wish to receive the following services (for an extra fee):
- 1. Addressee's Address
 - 2. Restricted Delivery
- Consult postmaster for fee.

4a. Article Number

P 551 044 614

4b. Service Type

- Registered
- Express Mail
- Return Receipt for Merchandise
- COD
- Certified
- Insured

7. Date of Delivery

SEP 22 1997

8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)

Domestic Return Receipt

Thank you for using Return Receipt Service.

P 551 044 614

US Postal Service
Receipt for Certified Mail

Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
Post Office Box 18496
Oklahoma City, OK 73154-0496

Postage	\$
Certified Fee	
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt Showing to Whom & Date Delivered	
Return Receipt Showing to Whom, Date, & Addressee's Address	
TOTAL Postage & Fees	\$
Postmark or Date	September 15, 1997

PS Form 3800, April 1995

CAMPBELL, CARR, BERGE
& SHERIDAN, P.A.
LAWYERS

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WILLIAM F. CARR
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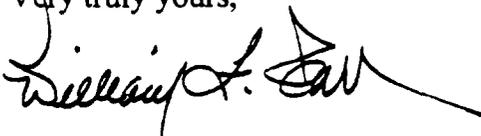
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ATTORNEY FOR NEARBURG EXPLORATION COMPANY, L.L.C
WFC:mlh
Enc.

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1. Addressee's Address

2. Restricted Delivery

Consult postmaster for fee.

3. Article Addressed to:

Chalfant Properties
 c/o Bill Chalfant
 Post Office Box 3123
 Midland, TX 79702

4a. Article Number

P 551 044 615

4b. Service Type

- Registered Certified
- Express Mail Insured
- Return Receipt for Merchandise COD

7. Date of Delivery

SEP 19 1997

8. Addressee's Address (Only if requested and fee is paid)

5. Received By: (Print/Name)

JUDITH HAMBLICK

6. Signature: (Addressee or Agent)

Judith Hamblick

PS Form 3811, December 1994

Domestic Return Receipt

Thank you for using Return Receipt Service.

P 551 044 615

US Postal Service
Receipt for Certified Mail
 Chalfant Properties
 c/o Bill Chalfant
 Post Office Box 3123
 Midland, TX 79702

Postage	\$
Certified Fee	
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt Showing to Whom & Date Delivered	
Return Receipt Showing to Whom, Date, & Addressee's Address	
TOTAL Postage & Fees	\$
Postmark or Date	September 15, 1997

PS Form 3800, April 1995