



NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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Governor
Joanna Prukop
Cabinet Secretary

Lori Wrotenberg
Director
Oil Conservation Division

MEMORANDUM

To: Counsel, Case No. 12,888

From: Stephen C. Ross, Assistant General Counsel

Date: February 11, 2003

Re: **Case No. 12,888, *de novo***, Application of the Fruitland Coalbed Methane Study Committee to amend Rules 4 and 7 of the Special Rules and Regulations of the Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool and for the termination of the Cedar Hill-Fruitland Basal Coal Pool and the concomitant expansion of the Basin-Fruitland Coal (Gas) Pool, Rio Arriba, San Juan, McKinley and Sandoval Counties, New Mexico, before the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission.

Dear Counsel,

There has been some confusion regarding the submission of the pre-hearing statements in this matter. The confusion seems to stem from the fact that a hearing date has not yet been set by the Commission.

As you recall, my January 16, 2003 memorandum required pre-hearing statements to be submitted no later than February 14, 2003. One of the purposes of requiring such an early submission of the statement was to permit the Commission to assess the number of days that would be required for the hearing. This remains an important consideration.

Because of the confusion, the parties should submit the pre-hearing statements no later than February 28, 2003. On or about that date, the Commission will set a hearing date, which should be in the late May, early June time frame.

Thank you to the parties who alerted me to the confusion on this point.

Counsel, Case No. 12,888

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If I can be of assistance to the parties, please do not hesitate to contact me at (505) 476-3451.

Sincerely,



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