



# NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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November 22, 2002

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Re: 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.

**Case No. 12,888, *de novo***

Dear Counsel,

I have before me the applications for hearing *de novo* in this matter of Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company LP, BP America Inc. and the San Juan Coal Company.

Counsel of Record, Case No. 12,888

November 22, 2002

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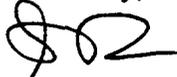
Judging from the number of applications for hearing *de novo* and the interest this case attracted while it was before the Division, I expect the case take several days to present. As the Commission has only reserved one day for hearings in December 2002, I do not expect this case to be docketed before the New Year.

However, I would like to schedule a pre-hearing conference in the next few weeks to plan for the hearing. During the conference, I would like to discuss dates for the hearing, the number of witnesses each party expects to present and the general subject matter of each witnesses' testimony, a schedule for submission of pre-hearing statements and exhibits to the Commission and parties, and other appropriate matters.

I would like to suggest that the conference occur on December 12, at 1:30 p.m. at the offices of the Oil Conservation Division in Santa Fe. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are available. Those located out-of-town are certainly welcome to participate by telephone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 476-3451.

Sincerely,



Stephen C. Ross

Assistant General Counsel

Counsel to the Oil Conservation Commission

Cc: Florene Davidson, Commission Secretary  
David Brooks