



Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Project Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1992

O. C. D.
ARTESIA - NM

NOV 18 1992

Patrick J. Tower
Project Landman
ENRON Oil & Gas Company
P.O. Box 2267
Midland, Texas 79702

Dear Mr. Tower:

By letter dated October 19, 1992, you asked that the Department of Energy (DOE), Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), register any objections DOE might have to ENRON's plans to directionally drill a well within James Ranch Unit No. 18 from a surface location within Section 36-T22S-R30E, to a bottom hole location within that same section. Because DOE does not consider itself to be an offset operator, we have not completed the form presented in your October 19, 1992 letter.

The description provided in your letter indicates that your drilling activity for the proposed well will be confined to Section 36-T22S-R30E, and that at no time will your drilling activity encroach upon the surface or subsurface interests owned by the United States within the WIPP Land Withdrawal Area. On that basis, we have no objection to your plans to directionally drill the described well within James Ranch Unit No. 18.

Sincerely,

Arlen E. Hunt
WIPP Site Project Manager

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:
Mr. Dick Manus
Bureau of Land Management
Area Manager
101 E. Mermod
Carlsbad, NM 88220

Mr. Mike Williams
District Supervisor
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
Artesia District Office
P.O. Drawer D.D.
Artesia, NM 88211