



United States Department of the Interior

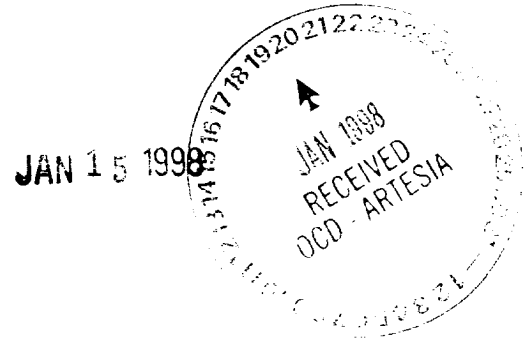
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Roswell District Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88202

IN REPLY REFER TO

3162.4

NM-15311



Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company
P. O. Box 51810
Midland, TX 79710-1810

Gentlemen:

Your Application for Permit to Drill (APD), approved December 17, 1996, for the El Paso "23" Federal #2 located 1980'/N & 2310'/E, Section 23, T. 26 S., R. 30 E., Eddy County, New Mexico, Lease No. NM-15311, has expired because drilling has not commenced within one year of the approval date as stated in the General Requirements for Oil and Gas Operations on Federal Leases.

If drilling operations have commenced on the referenced well, please contact this office at (505) 627-0272 and send all necessary reports (spud, casing/cementing, etc., 1 original and 5 copies) so we may correct our records.

If the well has not been spudded, but site construction activities have occurred, please contact this office at the above telephone number for surface reclamation instructions.

If you wish to drill this well at a later date, please submit a complete application (1 original and 6 copies). Since the original APD has expired, the resubmitted APD will be subject to all the processing requirements including the 30-day posting requirement. Please note on the resubmitted APD that it was previously approved and we will review the expired file for information which will help expedite the processing.

Sincerely,

(ORIG SENT) JOHN S. JIMTZ

Armando A. Lopez
Acting Assistant District Manager,
Mineral Support Team

cc: BLM-I&E (CRA)
NMOCD (Artesia)
CRA (L Denniston)