

United States Department of 1 Interior

Bureau of Land Management New Mexico State Office 1474 Rodeo Road P. O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115 www.nm.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO: 3160 (08200) NM-81953

CERTIFIED--RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED 70001 1140 0002 9995 2402

Yates Petroleum Corporation Attention: Cy Cowan 105 South Fourth Street Artesia, NM 88210

RE: NM-81953 Glow Worm "ALX" Federal #4 660' FSL & 660' FEL, Sec. 3, T23S, R31E Eddy County, New Mexico APR 2 3 2002



Dear Mr. Cowan:

Your proposed oil and gas well is located in the Secretary of the Interior's Potash Area as described by the 1986 Secretarial Order. In accordance with the order, we have designated areas within the Potash Area as a Potash Enclave. The enclave contains measured potassium mineral resources of sufficient quality and quantity to be technologically and economically minable using standard mining practices.

Regrettably, your proposed well extension must be denied. Drilling at the proposed location would likely interfere with future potash mining and result in undue waste of known enclave reserves. In the future, it could also prove hazardous to the health and safety of potash miners.

Your copies of the application are being returned. Any party adversely affected by this decision may appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals in accordance with 43 CFR 3165.4 and Form 1842-1 (enclosed).

Please contact our Carlsbad Field Office Solid Minerals Staff at (505) 234-5972 should you have questions regarding alternative locations or need other assistance on matters involving potash mining.

Sincerely,

151 Frank Splenderia

Acting State Director

1 Enclosure

bcc: NM(932) NM (083, C. Cranston) BLM I&E (CFO) NMOCD (Artesia) NM (062, L. Askwig)