STATE OF NEW MEXICO



ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION AZTEC DISTRICT OFFICE



BRUCE KING GOVERNOR ANITA LOCKWOOD CABINET SECRETARY 1000 RIO BRAZOS ROAD AZTEC, NEW MEXICO 87410 (505) 334-6178

August 24, 1993

Ms Anu Pundari Sr. Compliance Engineer El Paso Natural Gas Company PO Box 4990 Farmington, NM 87499

RE:

Illegal Pits in Northwestern New Mexico

Cutler #2, A-14-24N-06W (Earthen pit off Meter Run)

Farmington E #1E, I-02-24N-06W (Earthen pit off Meter Run)

Dear Ms. Pundari:

New Mexico Oil Conservation Order R-8952 (for the protection of migratory birds) became effective June 15, 1989 and states that <u>all pits</u> and open tanks more than 16' in diameter shall be screened, netted or covered.

On October 13, 1992 field inspections conducted by Dianna Fairhurst revealed that the Cutler #2 pit contained water with heavy skim oil. On August 17, 1993 field inspections conducted by Jackie Neckels from the BLM revealed that the same pit still contained hydrocarbons. In addition, the Farmington E #1E pit contained water and hydrocarbons. In order for these pits to be in compliance, you are hereby directed to remove all fluid or properly net this pit by September 24, 1993.

If you have any questions please feel free to call this office.

Sincerely,

Quama K Sauhurst

Dianna K. Fairhurst Deputy Oil & Gas Inspector

xc: C-134 File

Well File

Jackie Neckels - BLM Farmington