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VIA FACSIMILE
476-3462

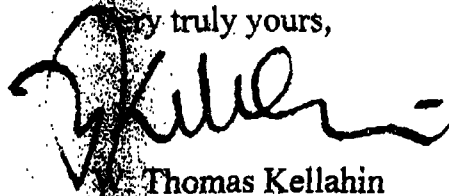
Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Director
Oil Conservation Division
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE
NMOCD Case 13199
Application of the Melrose Operating, Company
To re-instate and amended Division Order R-11720
For its Artesia Unit Waterflood Project.
Eddy County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

On behalf of the applicant, we request that the referenced case be continued
from the January 8, 2004 docket to the January 22, 2004 docket.

Very truly yours,


W. Thomas Kellahin

CC: Melrose Operating Company
Attn: Robert Lee