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October 3, 2001

Via Fax and U.S. Mail

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

Re: Case 12734; application of Richardson Operating Company

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

The Division has denied the motion of San Juan Coal Company ("SJCC") to continue the above case to December 6, 2001. It is now scheduled to be heard on October 18, 2001. The reason for this letter is twofold:

1. SJCC renews its motion to continue the case to December 6, 2001, and incorporates by reference the matters stated in its pleadings on file herein.
2. Pursuant to Division Rule 1211.B, SJCC requests a pre-hearing conference to discuss (a) the continuance motion, (b) SJCC's standing, and (c) the scope of the hearing. SJCC intends to present evidence at the hearing which Richardson claims is improper. Thus, a pre-hearing conference in this matter will save time at the hearing, and be of value to the parties as well as the Division.

SJCC suggests the afternoons of October 9th or 10th for the conference.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,


James Bruce

cc: Counsel of record (via fax)

KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN

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W. THOMAS KELLAHIN*

*NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
RECOGNIZED SPECIALIST IN THE AREA OF
NATURAL RESOURCES-OIL AND GAS LAW

JASON KELLAHIN (RETIRED 1991)

October 3, 2001

Via Facsimile

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

Re: **NMOCD Case: 12734**
Application of Richardson Operating Company
to establish a Special "Infill Well" Area within
the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool,
San Juan County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

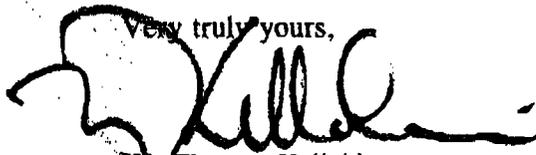
I represent the applicant in the referenced case which appears on the Division Examiner's docket for October 4, 2001. Yesterday, Examiner Catanach denied San Juan Coal Company's request to continue the case to December 6, 2001. As an accommodation to San Juan Coal Company, I agreed to continue this case to October 18, 2001.

This morning I received San Juan Coal Company's request for a prehearing conference to be held in the afternoon of either October 9th or 10th. I will be on vacation from October 7th through October 16 and will arrange to have another attorney stand in for me at a prehearing conference if that is necessary.

My preference would be to hold the prehearing conference tomorrow at the conclusion of the regularly scheduled Examiner's docket on which this case appears.

In addition, I recommend that this case be set on a special Division Examiner's Docket for hearing on or before November 1, 2001.

Very truly yours,



W. Thomas Kellahin

cc: David R. Catanach, OCD Hearing Examiner
Steve Ross, Esq. and David Brooks, Esq.
Attorneys for the Division
James Bruce, Esq.,
Attorney for San Juan Coal Company
Richardson Operating Company
Attn: Cathy Colby

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**OIL CONSERVATION
DIVISION**

October 3, 2001

Via Fax and U.S. Mail

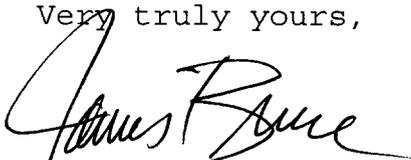
Lori Wrotenbery
Oil Conservation Division
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Re: Case 12734; application of Richardson Operating Company

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

I received Mr. Kellahin's letter. San Juan Coal Company has scheduling problems with certain of its representatives which make tomorrow's proposed pre-hearing conference date impractical. In addition, that date would not allow adequate time to prepare for the conference. If a special hearing date is scheduled, then we should be able to work around Mr. Kellahin's vacation plans.

Very truly yours,



James Bruce

cc: Counsel of record (via fax)