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San Juan Coal Company
New Mexico Operations
BHP World Minerals
070 FARMINGTON, NM

August 19, 1997

Mr. Richard Whitley
Deputy State Director, Resource Planning, Use and Protection
Bureau of Land Management, NM State Office
1474 Rodeo RD
P. O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115

RE: Coal Exploration License

Dear Mr. Whitley:

Enclosed please find three (3) copies of San Juan Coal Company's (SJCC) Exploration and Reclamation Plan as required by regulation. San Juan Coal Company respectfully requests this letter be considered an application for coal exploration purposes on the lands listed below:

Township 30 North, Range 14 West, N.M. P.M.

- Section 17: ALL
- Section 18: ALL
- Section 19: ALL
- Section 20: ALL
- Section 29: ALL
- Section 30: ALL
- Section 31: N², N² S², Lot 1 (41.70)
Lot 2 (41.21), Lot 3 (40.73)
Lot 4 (40.24)

containing 4,483.88 acres, m/l.

SJCC has applied for a lease for these lands under separate cover in accordance with BLM provisions for Leasing By Application.

SJCC plans to drill 17 holes, 15 on Federal minerals and 2 on a New Mexico State Lease MC0087.

Enclosed please also find a check for \$250 as required for an Exploration License. If you have any questions regarding this matter please feel free to contact either myself or Peter Christensen at (505) 598-2000.

Sincerely,

Mickey Ginn
Projects and Permitting Superintendent

BEFORE THE
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Case No. 12734
Exhibit # *A-6*
Submitted By: Richardson Oper. Co.
Hearing Date: October 28 & 30, 2002

Application of Richardson Operating Co.
Record on Appeal, 740.