STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT **OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION**

CASE NO. 11883

APPLICATION OF MARATHON OIL COMPANY FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

1997

PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This pre-hearing statement is submitted by Marathon Oil Company, as required by the Oil Conservation Division.

APPEARANCE OF PARTIES

APPLICANT

ATTORNEY

Marathon Oil Company P. O. Box 552 Midland, Texas 79702 (915) 687-8144

attn: Thomas C. Lowry, Esq.

W. Thomas Kellahin KELLAHIN AND KELLAHIN P.O. Box 2265 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 (505) 982-4285

STATEMENT OF CASE

Marathon has a working interest ownership in the oil and gas minerals from 3500 feet (the base of the San Andres formation) to 11,152 feet (the base of the Morrow formation) underlying the N/2 equivalent of Irregular Section 4, T19S, R28E, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The subject tract is located within one-mile of the current boundaries of the North Turkey Track-Morrow Gas Pool.

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Marathon proposes to drill its Courtman "4" State Well No. 1 at a standard gas well location in Unit G of Section 4 to test any and all formations in the pooled interval from 3500 feet (the base of the San Andres formation) to 11,152 feet (the base of the Morrow formation) and to be dedicated to the appropriate sized spacing unit for the appropriate pool.

Despite its good faith efforts, Marathon has been unable to obtain a written voluntary agreement from all of the parties.

Pursuant to Section 70-2-17(c) NMSA (1978) and in order to obtain its just and equitable share of potential production underlying this spacing unit, the applicant needs an order of the Division pooling the identified and described mineral interests involved in order to protect correlative rights and prevent waste.

PROPOSED EVIDENCE

APPLICANT:

WITNESSES EST. TIME EXHIBITS

Tim Robertson (landman) 15 Min. @ 6 exhibits

Bill DeMis (geologist) 15 Min. @ 2 exhibits

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

None anticipated at this time

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