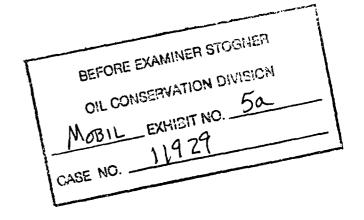


December 12, 1997

Mobil Exploration & Producing U.S., Inc. P.O. Box 633 Midland, Texas 79702

Attention: Ms. Shirley Houchins

Re: Injectivity Test North Vacuum Abo Unit PM Project Lea County, New Mexico



Dear Ms. Houchins:

Reference is made to your request dated December 11, 1997, for authorization to commence injection into the following described horizontal injection wells within the North Vacuum Abo Unit Pressure Maintenance Project:

WELL NAME

WELL LOCATION

NVAU No. 136	(API No. 30-025-23462)	Unit D, Section 26, T-17S, R-34E
NVAU No. 156	(API No. 30-025-23696)	Unit J, Section 23, T-17S, R-34E
NVAU No. 213	(API No. 30-025-23982)	Unit N, Section 23, T-17S, R-34E

It is our understanding that these wells, which were originally drilled and permitted as conventional vertical injection wells, have recently been horizontally drilled within the Abo formation in order to increase the sweep efficiency of the pressure maintenance operations. It is further our understanding that Mobil Exploration & Producing, U.S. Inc., will request a Division hearing in January, 1998, to amend the injection permits for these wells, to establish an administrative procedure whereby additional injection wells within the North Vacuum Abo Unit may be drilled and completed as horizontal injection wells, and to qualify this project as an EOR Project pursuant to the "New Mexico Enhanced Oil Recovery Act".

Mobil Exploration & Producing U.S. Inc., is hereby authorized to commence a 90-day injectivity test on the above-described wells, provided however that the operator shall be subject to all applicable Division Rules and Regulations during this test injection period.

If you should have any questions, please contact Mr. David Catanach at (505) 827-8184.

Sincerely, 28 00 William J. LeMay Director

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xc: OCD-Hobbs File-PMX-138 Case File-4831 £

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