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September 21, 1999

HAND DELIVERED

Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Chair
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Department of Energy,
Minerals and Natural Resources
2040 South Pacheco Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

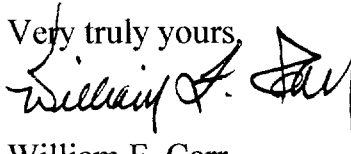
**Re: Case 12186 (De Novo) Application of Chesapeake Operating Inc. for
compulsory pooling, Lea County, New Mexico.**

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery,

Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc., applicant for hearing de novo in the above-referenced case, hereby requests that the hearing scheduled for September 23, 1999, be continued to the October 1999 Commission hearing docket.

Your attention to this request is appreciated.

Very truly yours,



William F. Carr
Attorney for Ameristate Oil & Gas, Inc.

cc: W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq.
Attorney for Chesapeake Operating Inc.