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

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING:

Case No. 12333 Order No. R-11334

APPLICATION OF OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION TO AMEND DIVISION RULES 103 AND 202 REGARDING WELL SIGNS AND PLUGGED AND ABANDONED MARKERS

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This case came on for hearing at 9 o'clock a.m. on January 21 and February 25, 2000, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before the Oil Conservation Commission of New Mexico, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission."

NOW, on this 25th day of February, 2000, the Commission, a quorum being present, having considered the record,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice has been given and the Commission has jurisdiction of this case and its subject matter.
- (2) Testimony indicated Rules 103 and 202 should be amended to require: (i) signs be placed on well-related facilities; (ii) signs remain in place until the well is plugged and the facilities closed; (iii) signs be replaced by the new operator within 90 days of a change in operator; (iv) that no permanent structure preventing wellhead access be built over plugged and abandoned wells; (v) OCD approval prior to sign removal; and (vi) that below-ground plugged and abandoned markers conform to certain requirements.
- (3) Rules 103 and 202 of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division Rules should be amended as shown on the attached Exhibit "A."
- (4) It is necessary to adopt the amendments to Rules 103 and 202 set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- (1) Rules 103 and 202 are hereby amended and adopted as set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."
- (2) Amended Rules 103 and 202 are effective as of the date of publication in the New Mexico Register.

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- (3) Jurisdiction of this case is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.
- (4) Done at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

JAMI BAILEY, Member

ROBERT L. LEE, Member

LORI WROTENBERY, Chairman

SEAL