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January 4, 2002

HAND- DELIVERED

Ms. Lori Wrotenbery, Director
Oil Conservation Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals &
Natural Resources Department
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

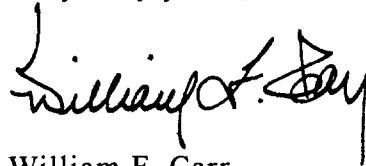
**Re: Case No. 12790: Application of Nearburg Exploration
Company, L.L.C. for Compulsory Pooling, Lea County, New
Mexico**

Dear Ms. Wrotenbery:

Nearburg Exploration Company, L.L.C. hereby requests that the above-referenced application which is currently scheduled for hearing on January 20, 2002, be continued to the February 7, 2002, Examiner Hearing docket.

Your attention to this request is appreciated.

Very truly yours,



William F. Carr
Attorney for Nearburg Exploration Co. L.L.C.

WFC/keh

cc: Duke Roush
J. E. Gallegos, Esq.
Attorney for Doyle Hartman, Oil Operator
W. Thomas Kellahin, Esq.
Attorney for OXY USA WTP