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

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

CASE NO. 10632

APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL INC. FOR AN UNORTHODOX COAL GAS WELL LOCATION, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Constraint and

PRE-HEARING STATEMENT

This pre-hearing statement is submitted by MERIDIAN OIL INC. as required by the Oil Conservation Division.

APPEARANCE OF PARTIES

APPLICANT

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ATTORNEY

Meridian Oil Inc.	W. Thomas Kellahin
P.O. Box 4289	KELLAHIN and KELLAHIN
Farmington, NM 87499	P.O. Box 2265
ATTN: Alan Alexander	Santa Fe, NM 87504
(505) 326-9757	(505) 982-4285

OPPOSITION OR OTHER PARTY ATTORNEY

N/A

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STATEMENT OF CASE

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APPLICANT

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Meridian Oil Inc., Applicant, seeks approval to drill a coal gas well in an "off-pattern" location in the SE/4 of Section 17, Township 30 North, Range 8 West, NMPM (Unit I) to be dedicated to a Basin Fruitland Coal Gas spacing unit consisting of the E/2 of said Section 17.

The off-pattern location is necessary because:

(a) Other off-pattern wells have been previously approved and drilled offsetting the subject spacing unit;

(b) There is an apparent permeability transition in this immediate area such that the proposed location is the optimum location in the spacing unit for the well; and

(c) There are topographical features limiting the available locations.

The pooling is necessary because there is a lease without a pooling clause which covers the S/2SE/4 of said Section 17, and because UNOCAL Corporation has not signed the necessary documents to commit its interest to the well. Also to be considered will be the cost of drilling and completing said well and the allocation of the cost thereof as well as actual operating costs and charges for supervision, designation of applicant as operator of the well and a charge for risk involved in drilling the well.

OPPOSITION OR OTHER PARTY

NONE

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PROPOSED EVIDENCE

APPLICANT

WIT	NESSES	EST. TIME	EXHIBITS
Alan Ale Lan	xander dman	10 Minutes	2 Exhibits
Greg Jen Geo	nings logist	20 Minutes	4 Exhibits
Jim Falc Pet	oni roleum Engineer	20 Minutes	4 Exhibits
OPPOSITION			
WIT	NESSES	EST. TIME	EXHIBITS

NONE

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

None applicable at this time.

KELLAHIN and KELLAHIN

By: W. Thomas Kellahin

P.O. Box 2265 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 (505) 982-4285 ATTORNEYS FOR THE APPLICANT

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