KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN and AUBREY

Attorneys at Law

W. Thomas Kellahin Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin Of Counsel El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265

Santa Fé, New Mexico 87504-2265 January 3, 1988 Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

RECEIVED

Mr. William J. LeMay Director Oil Conservation Division 310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 206 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

JAN 4 1980

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

Re: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc. for Compulsory Pooling
Well Name: Florence Com #260
San Juan County, New Mexico

Case 9594

1

Dear Mr. LeMay:

On behalf of Meridian Oil, Inc., please find enclosed our Application for Compulsory Pooling which we would request be set for hearing on the next available Examiner's docket now scheduled for February 1, 1989.

By copy of this letter to all parties to be pooled, we are notifying them by certified mail-return receipt, that they have the right to appear at the hearing, to make a statement to the Division, to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses either in support of or in opposition to the Application. Those parties are directed to contact the Division or the applicant's attorney to determine what additional rights they may have. In addition, they are advised that the entry of a Compulsory Pooling Order will affect their right to share in the production from the subject well.

. Thomas Kellahin

WTK/dm Encl.

cc: Mr. Allen Alexander

Certified Mail-Return Receipt to all parties listed on Exhibit A of the Application, w/encl.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED

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OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE: 9594

APPLICATION

comes now, Meridian OIL, Inc., by and through its attorneys, Kellahin, Kellahin and Aubrey, and in accordance with Section 70-2-17(c) NMSA (1978) applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order pooling all mineral interest in the Basin Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 21, T30N, R9W, San Juan County, New Mexico. The above described unit is to be dedicated to its Florence Com #260 Well to be drilled to a depth of approximately 2656 feet at a standard well location in said Section 21, and in support thereof would show:

- 1. Applicant is a working interest owner in the $\mathrm{S}/2$ of Section 21, T30N R9W.
- 2. Applicant desires to drill a well at a standard well location 1580 feet FWL and 1215 feet FSL in the SW/4 SW/4 of Section 21.

- 3. Applicant, has sought a voluntary agreement with all those parties shown on Exhibit "A" for the formation of appropriate spacing and proration unit as shown on Exhibit B for the drilling of the subject well but has been unable to obtain a voluntary agreement.
- 4. Pursuant to the Division notice requirements, applicant has notified all those parties shown on Exhibit "A" of this application for compulsory pooling and the applicant's request for a hearing before the Division to be set on February 1, 1988.
- 5. In order to obtain its just and equitable share of the potential production underlying the above tract, applicant needs an order pooling the mineral interests involved in order to protect applicant's correlative rights and prevent waste.

WHEREFORE, applicant prays that this application be set for hearing before the Division's duly appointed examiner, and that after notice and hearing as required by law, the Division enter its order pooling the mineral interest described herein. Applicant further prays that it be named operator of the well, and that the order make provisions for applicant to recover out of production its costs of drilling, completing and equipping the subject well, costs of operation, including costs of supervision, and a risk factor in the amount of 200% for the drilling and completing of the well, for such other and further relief as may be proper.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Thomas Kellahin Kellahin, Kellahin & Aburey P.O. Box 2265

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

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FLORANCE COM #260

Meridian Oil Inc.

Operator

c/o Land Department

Meridian Oil Production-Inc.

P.O. Box 4289

Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289

El Paso Production Company

50.000000%

c/o Land Department

Meridian Oil Production Inc.

P.O. Box 4289

Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289

Southland Royalty Comapny

25.000000%

e/o-Land-Department

Meridian Oil Production Inc.

P.O. Box 4289

Farmington, New Mexico 87499 4289

Tenneco Oil Company Post Office Box 3249 12.500000%

Englewood, Colorado 80155

Conoco, Inc.

10.875000%

Post Office Box 460

Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

FMP Operating Company

1.625000%

Post Office Box 60004

New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN and AUBREY

Attorneys at Law

W. Thomas Kellahin Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin Of Counsel El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265

Santa Fé, New Mexico 87504-2265 January 3, 1988 Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

Mr. William J. LeMay
Director
Oil Conservation Division
310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 206
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

RECEIVED

JAN A ---

Re: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc.

for Compulsory Pooling

Well Name: Florence Com #260 San Juan County, New Mexico OIL CONSERVATION OIVISION,

Dear Mr. LeMay:

On behalf of Meridian Oil, Inc., please find enclosed our Application for Compulsory Pooling which we would request be set for hearing on the next available Examiner's docket now scheduled for February 1, 1989.

By copy of this letter to all parties to be pooled, we are notifying them by certified mail-return receipt, that they have the right to appear at the hearing, to make a statement to the Division, to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses either in support of or in opposition to the Application. Those parties are directed to contact the Division or the applicant's attorney to determine what additional rights they may have. In addition, they are advised that the entry of a Compulsory Pooling Order will affect their right to share in the production from the subject well.

Very truly yours,
Original signed by
W. Thomas Kellahin

W. Thomas Kellahin

WTK/dm Encl.

cc: Mr. Allen Alexander

Certified Mail-Return Receipt to all parties listed on Exhibit A of the Application, w/encl.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED

Jan J

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

THE CONSERVATION DIVISION

CASE: 9594

APPLICATION

COMES NOW, MERIDIAN OIL, INC., by and through its attorneys, Kellahin, Kellahin and Aubrey, and in accordance with Section 70-2-17(c) NMSA (1978) applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order pooling all mineral interest in the Basin Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 21, T30N, R9W, San Juan County, New Mexico. The above described unit is to be dedicated to its Florence Com #260 Well to be drilled to a depth of approximately 2656 feet at a standard well location in said Section 21, and in support thereof would show:

- 1. Applicant is a working interest owner in the S/2 of Section 21, T30N R9W.
- 2. Applicant desires to drill a well at a standard well location 1580 feet FWL and 1215 feet FSL in the $SW/4\ SW/4$ of Section 21.

- 3. Applicant, has sought a voluntary agreement with all those parties shown on Exhibit "A" for the formation of appropriate spacing and proration unit as shown on Exhibit B for the drilling of the subject well but has been unable to obtain a voluntary agreement.
- 4. Pursuant to the Division notice requirements, applicant has notified all those parties shown on Exhibit "A" of this application for compulsory pooling and the applicant's request for a hearing before the Division to be set on February 1, 1988.
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Respectfully submitted,

W. Thomas Kellahin Kellahin, Kellahin & Aburey P.O. Box 2265

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

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New Orleans, Louisiana 70160

KELLAHIN, KELLAHIN and AUBREY
Attorneys at Law

W. Thomas Kellahin Karen Aubrey

Jason Kellahin Of Counsel El Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265

Santa Fé, New Mexico 87504-2265 January 3, 1988 Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

Case 9594

. Mr. William J. LeMay
Director
Oil Conservation Division
310 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 206
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Re: Application of Meridian Oil, Inc.

for Compulsory Pooling
Well Name: Florence Com #260
San Juan County, New Mexico

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Very truly yours,

Original signed by W. THOMAS KELLAHIN

W. Thomas Kellahin

WTK/dm Encl.

cc: Mr. Allen Alexander

Certified Mail-Return Receipt to all parties listed on Exhibit A of the Application, w/encl.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND MINERALS OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

RECEIVED

JAN 4 5

OIL CONSERVATION OF THE

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CASE: 9594

APPLICATION

COMES NOW, MERIDIAN OIL, INC., by and through its attorneys, Kellahin, Kellahin and Aubrey, and in accordance with Section 70-2-17(c) NMSA (1978) applies to the New Mexico Oil Conservation Division for an order pooling all mineral interest in the Basin Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 21, T30N, R9W, San Juan County, New Mexico. The above described unit is to be dedicated to its Florence Com #260 Well to be drilled to a depth of approximately 2656 feet at a standard well location in said Section 21, and in support thereof would show:

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Respectfully submitted,

W. Thomas Kellahin Kellahin, Kellahin & Aburey P.O. Box 2265

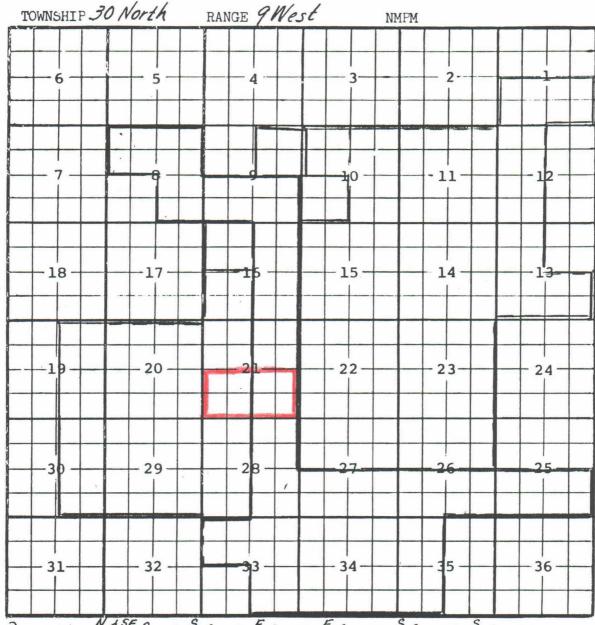
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

(505) 982-4285

Section	21	Township	30N	_RANGE	9W	Соинту	San Juan	STATE	NM
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Meridian Oil Inc. Operator e/o Land-Department Meridian Oil Production Inc. P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289 El Paso Production Company 50.000000% c/o-Land Department Meridian Oil Production Inc. P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289 Southland Royalty Comapny 25,000000% e/o Land Department Meridian Oil Production Inc. P.O. Box 4289 Farmington, New Mexico 87499-4289 Tenneco Oil Company 12.500000% Post Office Box 3249 Englewood, Colorado 80155 Conoco, Inc. 10.875000% Post Office Box 460 Hobbs, New Mexico 88240 FMP Operating Company Post Office Box - 60004

New Orleans, Louisiana 70160



Description: \$\frac{1}{4}\$ \sec. 8; \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 9; \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 16; \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 21; \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 25; \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 26; \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 28; \frac{7}{4} \frac{5}{4} \Sec. 33; \text{All Sec. 34; \frac{7}{4} \Sec. 35 (R-4311, 6-1-72)}

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENERGY AND MINERALS DEPARTMENT

OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

GARREY CARRUTHERS

February 23, 1939



Tr. Thomas Kellahin Kellahin, Kellahin & Aubrey Attornous at Law	Re:	CASE NO. 0554 ORDER NO. R-3378
Post Office Box 2265 Santa Fe, New Mexico		Applicant:
		Meridian Oil, Inc
Dear Sir:		
Enclosed herewith are two copposition order recently entered		
Sincerely,		
Florene Davidson		
FLORENE DAVIDSON OC Staff Specialist		
-		
Copy of order also sent to:		
Hobbs OCD x		
Artesia OCD x Aztec OCD x		
Other William F. Carr		

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINEPALS, 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. 9594 Order No. R-8879

APPLICATION OF MERIDIAN OIL, INC. FOR COMPULSORY POOLING, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ORDER OF THE DIVISION

BY THE DIVISION:

This cause came on for hearing at 8:15 a.m. on February 1 and 15, 1989, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiners David R. Catanach and Michael E. Stogner, respectively.

NOW, on this 22nd day of February, 1989, the Division Director, having considered the testimony, the record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS THAT:

- (1) Due public notice having been given as required by law, the Division has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.
- (2) Division Case Nos. 9593, 9594, 9595, 9596, 9598, and 9599 were consolidated at the time of the February 1st hearing for the purpose of testimony.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8878 Page -2-

- (3) The applicant, Meridian Oil, Inc. (Meridian), seeks an order pooling all mineral interests in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 21, Township 30 North, Range 9 West, NMPM, San Juan County. New Mexico, forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, to be dedicated to its Florance Com Well No. 260 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location 1215 feet from the South line and 1580 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 21.
- (4) Amoco Production Company (Amoco), an interest owner in the proposed proration unit who has not agreed to pool its interest, appeared at the hearing in opposition to the applicant's proposed 200 percent risk penalty.
- (5) The applicant has the right to drill and proposes to drill a well at a standard coal gas well location as described above.
- (6) To avoid the drilling of unnecessary wells, to protect correlative rights, to avoid waste, and to afford to the owner of each interest in said unit the opportunity to recover or receive without unnecessary expense his just and fair share of the production in any pool completion resulting from this order, the subject application should be approved by pooling all mineral interests, whatever they may be, within said unit.
- (7) The applicant should be designated the operator of the subject well and unit.
- (8) Any non-consenting working interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8878 Page -3-

- (9) The applicant has proposed a 200 percent risk penalty be assessed against those interest owners subject to the force-pooling provisions of this order, and in support thereof presented evidence and testimony at the hearing.
- (10) At the request of Amoco, Administrative Notice was taken of 13 compulsory pooling cases in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool brought before and heard by the Division upon the application of Meridian Oil, Inc. on November 21, 1988 and January 15, 1989 (of which Division Orders have subsequently been issued).
- (11) The records in these cases indicate that, based upon the evidence and testimony presented, Meridian was granted a risk penalty of 156 percent.
- (12) The records further indicate that in each of these previously heard cases, Meridian also requested a 200 percent risk penalty, but that the risk penalty awarded was reduced due to the fact that the presence of coal at each of the wellsites was not deemed by the Division to be in question, and therefore should not be taken into consideration in determining risk.
- (13) Meridian, in the immediate cases, has proposed that the risk penalty be based upon geologic, reservoir, economic, and operational parameters and has further testified that the major consideration in determining risk should not be the presence of coal but the characteristics of the coal encountered which in turn has a direct bearing on the producing capability of the wells.
- (14) The applicant, which has drilled approximately 200 coal gas wells in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool to date, provided no evidence or testimony which would indicate that any of its wells have been plugged and abandoned due to non-productivity.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8878 Page -4-

- (15) The applicant further provided no evidence or testimony which would indicate that any of the wells drilled to date have been plugged and abandoned due to problems encountered while drilling or completing these wells.
- (16) The applicant has included certain factors such as market demand, water disposal, gathering facilities and equipment, etc. under its economic and operations risk parameters which do not have a bearing on the producing capability of any given well and should therefore not be considered in assessing risk.
- (17) Based upon the evidence and testimony presented in the immediate cases and consideration of the record in the previously heard compulsory pooling cases described in Finding No. (10) above, a risk penalty of 156 percent is fair and reasonable and should be adopted in this case.
- (18) Any non-consenting working interest owner who does not pay his share of estimated well costs should have withheld from production his share of the reasonable well costs plus an additional 156 percent thereof as a reasonable charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well.
- (19) Any non-consenting interest owner should be afforded the opportunity to object to the actual well costs but actual well costs should be adopted as the reasonable well costs in the absence of such objection.
- (20) Following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner who has paid his share of estimated costs should pay to the operator any amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and should receive from the operator any amount that paid estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8878 Page -5-

- (21) \$3500.00 per month while drilling and \$350.00 per month while producing should be fixed as reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates); the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charges attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator should be authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating the subject well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.
- (22) All proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason should be placed in escrow to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership.
- (23) Upon the failure of the operator of said pooled unit to commence the drilling of the well to which said unit is dedicated on or before June 1, 1989, the order pooling said unit should become null and void and of no effect whatsoever.
- (24) Should all the parties to this forced pooling reach voluntary agreement subsequent to entry of this order, this order shall thereafter be of no further effect.
- (25) The operator of the well and unit shall notify the Director of the Division in writing of the subsequent voluntary agreement of all parties subject to the forced pooling provisions of this order.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8378 Page -6-

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) All mineral interests, whatever they may be, in the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool underlying the S/2 of Section 21, Township 30 North, Range 9 West, NMPM, San Juan County, New Mexico, are hereby pooled forming a standard 320-acre gas spacing and proration unit for said pool, to be dedicated to the Florance Com Well No. 260 to be drilled at a standard coal gas well location 1215 feet from the South line and 1580 feet from the West line (Unit N) of said Section 21.

PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT, the operator of said unit—shall commence the drilling of said well on or before the 1st day of June, 1989, and shall thereafter continue the drilling of said well with due diligence—to a depth sufficient to—test the Basin-Fruitland Coal Gas Pool.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, in the event said operator does not commence the drilling of said well on or before the 1st day of June, 1989, Ordering Paragraph No. (1) of this order shall be null and void and of no effect whatsoever, unless said operator obtains a time extension from the Division for good cause shown.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, should said well not be drilled to completion, or abandonment, within 120 days after commencement thereof, said operator shall appear before the Division Director and show cause why Ordering Paragraph No.. (1) of this order should not be rescinded.

(2) Meridian Oil, Inc. is hereby designated the operator of the subject well and unit.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8878 Page -7-

- (3) After the effective date of this order and within 90 days prior to commencing said well, the operator shall furnish the Division and each known working interest owner in the subject unit an itemized schedule of estimated well costs.
- (4) Within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, any non-consenting working interest owner shall have the right to pay his share of estimated well costs to the operator in lieu of paying his share of reasonable well costs out of production, and any such owner who pays his share of estimated well costs as provided above shall remain liable for operating costs but shall not be liable for risk charges.
- (5) The operator shall furnish the Division and each known working interest owner an itemized schedule of actual well costs within 90 days following completion of the well; if no objection to the actual well costs is received by the Division and the Division has not objected within 45 days following receipt of said schedule, the actual well costs shall be the reasonable well costs; provided however, if there is objection to actual well costs within said 45-day period the Division will determine reasonable well costs after public notice and hearing.
- (6) Within 60 days following determination of reasonable well costs, any non-consenting working interest owner who has paid his share of estimated well costs in advance asprovided above shall pay to the operator his promata share of the amount that reasonable well costs exceed estimated well costs and shall receive from the operator his promata share of the amount that estimated well costs exceed reasonable well costs.

CASE NO. 9594 Order No. R-8878 Page -8-

- (7) The operator is hereby authorized to withhold the following costs and charges from production:
 - (A) The pro rata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him, and
 - (B) As a charge for the risk involved in the drilling of the well, 156 percent of the prorata share of reasonable well costs attributable to each non-consenting working interest owner who has not paid his share of estimated well costs within 30 days from the date the schedule of estimated well costs is furnished to him.
- (8) The operator shall distribute said costs and charges withheld from production to the parties who advanced the well costs.
- (9) \$3500.00 per month while drilling and \$350.00 per month while producing are hereby fixed as reasonable charges for supervision (combined fixed rates); the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of such supervision charges attributable to each non-consenting working interest, and in addition thereto, the operator is hereby authorized to withhold from production the proportionate share of actual expenditures required for operating such well, not in excess of what are reasonable, attributable to each non-consenting working interest.

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- (10) Any unleased mineral interest shall be considered a seven-eighths (7/8) working interest and a one-eighth (1/3) royalty interest for the purpose of allocating costs and charges under the terms of this order.
- (11) Any well costs or charges which are to be paid out of production shall be withheld only from the working interest's share of production, and no costs or charges shall be withheld from production attributable to royalty interests.
- (12) All proceeds from production from the subject well which are not disbursed for any reason shall immediately be placed in escrow in San Juan County, New Mexico, to be paid to the true owner thereof upon demand and proof of ownership; the operator shall notify the Division of the name and address of said escrow agent within 30 days from the date of first deposit with said escrow agent.
- (13) Should all parties to this forced pooling order reach voluntary agreement subsequent to entry of this order. this order shall thereafter be of no further effect.
- (14) The operator of the well and unit shall notify the Director of the Division in writing of the subsequent voluntary agreement of all parties subject to the forced pooling provisions of this order.
- (15) Jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Division may deem necessary.

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DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

CIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

WILLIAM J. LEMAY

Director

SEAL