KELLAHIN and KELLAHIN Attorneys at Law Fl Patio - 117 North Guadalupe Post Office Box 2265 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2265

Telephone 982-4285 Area Code 505

July 17, 1986

Mr. Richard L. Stamets
Oil Conservation Division
P. C. Box 2088
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

"Hand Delivered"

Re: Marathon Oil Company
Forced Pooling Application
Benson Well #1, SE/4SE/4
Section 14, T16S, R38E, MMPM
Lea County, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Stamets:

On behalf of Marathon Oil Company, on July 15, 1986 we filed a compulsory pooling application for the referenced well. That application lists Harvey E. Yates Company as one of the parties that has not yet elected to voluntarily join.

Subsequent to filing the application, I am advised that the Harvey E. Yates Company's interest is now held by the following four companies: Explorers Petroleum Corporation, Spiral Inc., Fred G. Yates Inc., and Yates Energy Corporation.

Marathon Oil Company is in contact with representatives of each of those companies in an effort to obtain voluntary joinder. However, in the event that such joinder efforts are unsuccessful, please amend our application to include those companies.

By copy of this letter to those companies we are sending a copy of our application and July 15th letter and thereby advising them of their right to appear at the August 6, 1986 hearing either in support or opposition to the application.

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Very truary

. Thomas Kallahin

WTE: Ja Enc. BEFORE EXAMINER STOGNER - OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION

MARATHON EXHIBIT NO. 18

CASE NO. 8460

KELLAHIN and KELLAHIN

Mr. Fichard L. Stamets July 17, 1986 Page 2

cc: Lawrence D. Garcia, Esq.
Marathon Oil Company
P. O. Box 3128
Houston, Texas 77253

Steve Daniels Marathon Oil Company 125 West Missouri Midland, Texas 79701

ARCO Oil & Gas P. O. Box 1610 Midland, Texas 79702 Attn: Rita Buress

Harvey E. Yates Company P. O. Box 1933 Roswell, New Mexico 88201 Attn: Mrs. Rosemary Avery

Mr. James Davidson P. O. Box 494 Midland, Texas 79702

Mr. & Mrs. W. V. Lawrence F. C. Box 2309 Hobbs, New Mexico 88240

Mrs. June D. Speight P. O. Drawer 1689 Lovington, New Mexico 88260

"Certified Return-Receipt Requested" All Addressees Below:

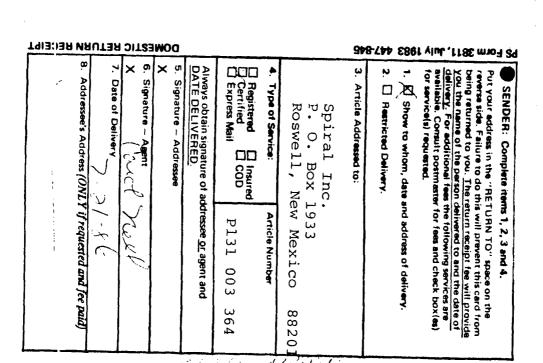
Explorers Petroleum Corporation F. O. Rox 1933
Roswell, Few Mexico 88201

Spiral Inc. P. O. Box 1933 Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Fred G. Yates Inc. SunWest Center, Suite 1010 Roswell, New Mexico 88201

Yates Energy Corporation SunWest Center, Suite 1010 Forwell, New Mexico 88201 Attr: Mr. For Hammons

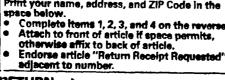
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