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OF COUNSEL  
WILLIAM G. CONLY

January 22, 2004

Honorable James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 44275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Johns Sand, Reservoir A, BEAR CREEK FIELD,  
Bienville Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

EL PASO PRODUCTION COMPANY ("Applicant") hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of an Order pertaining to the following matters relating to the Johns Sand, Reservoir A, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana:

1. To authorize Applicant to complete, designate and utilize its El Paso Fee 3 No. 2-D Well, located as shown on the attached plat, as the unit well for JOHNS RA SUA, in exception to the well location provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 78-CC, effective November 18, 2003.
2. To discuss such other matters as may be pertinent.

The Johns Sand, Reservoir A, in the Bear Creek Field, Bienville Parish, Louisiana, was defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 78-CC, effective November 18, 2003.

Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 N. Causeway Boulevard, Suite 204, Metairie, Louisiana 70002-7216. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Louis Gilbert at (504) 834-8112 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data which is not otherwise available from the records of the Louisiana Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

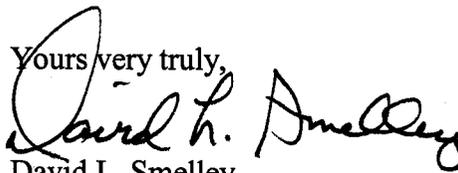
Pursuant to the Revised Rules of Procedure, Applicant has made a reasonable effort to obtain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties to whom notice of this application is being sent and has attached hereto a list of the names

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and addresses of such parties. A copy of this letter, and of the attached plat, is being sent to the District Manager of the Shreveport District of the Office of Conservation and to each of the Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties as shown on the attached list.

Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing, and of the enclosed plat, at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of Bear Creek Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, Applicant will mail a copy of the Legal Notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

Finally, enclosed herewith is our check payable to the Office of Conservation covering the application fee.

Yours very truly,  
  
David L. Smelley

-- Attorney for El Paso Production Company

DLS:dp  
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Jim Broussard (w/encl.)  
Mr. Jerry McAnulty (w/encl.)  
Mr. Gary Griffith (w/encl.)  
Mr. Louis Gilbert (w/encl.)  
Interested Owners, Represented Parties  
and Interested Parties (w/plat only)

