BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.

)	
IN RE:)	
)	
DESERT ROCK ENERGY COMPANY, LLC)	PSD Appeal Nos. 08-03, 08-04,
)	08-05 & 08-06
PSD Permit No. AZP 04-01)	
)	

STATE OF NEW MEXICO'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPLY BRIEF

Petitioner the State of New Mexico ("New Mexico") respectfully moves the Environmental Appeals Board ("Board") for a 7-day extension of time (from February 13, 2009 until February 20, 2009) to file its reply brief in support of its Petition in the above-captioned matter. New Mexico's Petition challenges the Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") decision of July 31, 2008 to issue a Prevention of Significant Deterioration ("PSD") permit ("Permit") to Desert Rock Energy Company, LLC ("DREC"). As grounds for this motion, New Mexico states as follows:

- On January 22, 2009, the Board granted review of the Permit and simultaneously granted petitioners until February 13, 2009 to file reply briefs.
- 2. On the evening of February 7, Assistant Attorney General Seth T. Cohen, lead attorney for the State of New Mexico, underwent an emergency appendectomy. He was released from the hospital on Sunday, February 8th.

 Because of his medical condition and his ongoing recovery from surgery, Mr.

 Cohen has been unable to do further work on New Mexico's reply brief and will be unable to do so for several days.

- Coincidentally, Mr. Eric Ames, Mr. Cohen's co-counsel at the New Mexico
 Environment Department underwent a surgical procedure on February 9,
 2009. This procedure was scheduled prior to the Board's setting of the reply deadline and, because of its urgent nature, could not be rescheduled.
- 4. Mr. Cohen's absence from work at this time poses an additional administrative complication. Because the New Mexico Attorney General's office is in charge of this appeal, and the filings originate out of that office, it is difficult to complete the reply brief through the New Mexico Environment Department, which is a wholly separate state agency.
- 5. For the foregoing reasons, New Mexico respectfully requests that the Board extend the deadline for filing its reply brief until February 20, 2009. This one-week extension would allow counsel for New Mexico to complete work on the reply brief with minimal disruption to the progress of this appeal.
- 6. Counsel for New Mexico has conferred with opposing counsel regarding this motion. Counsel for DREC does not oppose this motion. Counsel for EPA also does not oppose this motion. Counsel for EPA, however, indicated its preference that its deadline for filing a surreply be commensurately extended. Counsel for New Mexico also conferred with counsel for the Dine Power Authority, but did not receive a final answer before, in the interest of getting this matter before the Board immediately, New Mexico filed this motion.

Date: February 10, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on February 10, 2009 he caused a copy of the foregoing *State of New Mexico's Motion for Extension of Time to File Reply Brief* to be served by U.S. mail and electronic mail on:

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