## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

CIV No. 01 0072 BB/WWD-ACE

v.

**ZUNI RIVER BASIN** 

STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ex rel. STATE ENGINEER, et al.,

Defendants.

## STATE'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE A PROPOSAL FOR PROCEEDING ONCE THE STAY IN THIS CASE IS LIFTED

THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, by and through its counsel of record, hereby moves the Court for an extension of time to until June 30, 2001 to file either a proposed scheduling order or a proposal for proceeding once the stay in this case is lifted. As grounds for this motion, the State sets forth the following:

- 1. The Court's March 30, 2001 Scheduling Order (# 31) required the counsel for the United States and counsel for the State confer in an effort to reach an agreement with regards to a procedural and scheduling order to initiate the adjudication of the Zuni River basin.
- 2. The Order at paragraph 3 required that if the parties reach an agreement, they are to file their proposed order by May 31, 2001. It further provided that

If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, they shall file by May 31 a proposal for proceeding once the stay in this case is lifted.

3. On May 25, 2001, Charles O'Connell, Jr., counsel for the U.S., stated to counsel for the State that the U.S. proposals regarding the adjudication, and a draft

scheduling order encompassing the terms of those proposals, were still being reviewed by his client but that day he would fax a letter generally setting forth the U.S.' proposals.

- 4. As of the filing of this Motion on Friday, May 25, 2001, the State had received neither a draft scheduling order nor proposals regarding the Zuni adjudication from the U.S.
- 5. As of Friday, May 25, 2001, the State Engineer Office, Legal Services Division is presently in the process of relocating to new offices. Its equipment, staff and files are now partially or completely unavailable. The actual progress of the move to date indicate that this situation will in all likelihood continue through the first week in June, as the move is already two weeks behind schedule. The State's mail service and other means of communication will not be available until June 1, 2001, at the earliest.
- 6. Even if the U.S. proposals and draft scheduling order are received prior to May 31, 2001, the difficulties presented by the move will make it impossible for the State to properly evaluate and respond to the U.S.' proposal and comply with the terms of the March 30, 2001 deadline.
- 7. Concurrence of parties has not been sought as this Court's Order Waiving Package Filing Submission Requirement of February 9, 2001 (#2) provides that the parties may agree to unopposed extension of time "unless the extension would interfere with established case management deadlines." Order Waiving Package Filing Submission Requirement of February 9, 2001. As noted above, the extension sought by this Motion would indeed interfere with established case management deadlines.
- 8. Because this matter is presently stayed the extension of time requested by this Motion would not have a substantive effect on this litigation at this time.

Wherefore, the State requests the Court to enter an order granting an extension of time to until June 30, 2001 to file either a proposed scheduling order or a proposal for proceeding once the stay in this case is lifted.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **Certificate of Service**

I certify that on this 29th day of May, 2001, a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading was mailed by first class mail to the attached list of counsel of record and pro\_se parties:

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US v. SEO Zuni Pro SE-4/02/01

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