IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

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UNITED STATES,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO ENGINEER, et al.,

Defendants.

CIV-No.01-00720BB/WWD

01-72

ANSWER

Comes now Defendant Alberta O'Neal, by and through their attorney, David Ross Gardner, and in response to the Complaint states:

- 1. She is an owner of land within the area wherein the Plaintiff seeks to adjudicate water rights.
- 2. She claims the right to use water from underground sources or from community water systems for domestic and household purposes.
- 3. She believes her predecessors in title derived their patent to the land from the United States Government.
- 4. Although she is not currently using water, she does plan to retire to her land to live.
- 5. She does not deny the allegations of the Complaint, lacking knowledge or information thereof, but demands strict proof.

WHEREFOR, Defendant requests that her right to use water for domestic purposes be adjudicated.

David Ross Gardner Attorney for Claimant

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I certify that a copy of the foregoing pleading was mailed to counsel for Plaintiff this 6th day of March, 2001.

Mariner