



Estuary123@aol.com

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To: arlene_wimer@nps.gov
cc: howard.wilson@novus-usa.com, mark.Karam@novus-usa.com,
tod.hensarling@novus-usa.com, jnbei@sbcglobal.net,
sg_bei@sbcglobal.net, bn_bei@sbcglobal.net

Subject: Novus Manzano Prospect

Arlene,

Just a followup to my telephone messages. We need to know your preference of the access route to Manzano before we can map vegetation, assess impacts, etc. On December 22, 2003, we staked two access alternative access routes and a polygon within which a drill pad would be placed. All of the land involved is upland. I have attached a map that shows the two access options and the drill site polygon. Novus would prefer to access the drill site via the Gulf Beach access route. I will be on Padre Island on Monday morning. If you can go to the Manzano site Monday afternoon, please let me know. Otherwise, please let me know when you are available.

Novus would like to drill after the turtle nesting season, so we need all the time we can get to prepare the Plan of Operations and go through the permitting process.

Hope all is well with you. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Thanks!

Charlie Belaire

Belaire Environmental, Inc.

PO Box 741

Rockport, TX 78381

(361) 729-2948

(361) 729-2970 (fax)



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