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Registered Office:

Registered No. 813187 England

GLEN HOUSE, STAG PLACE, LONDON, SW1E 5AG

His Excellency N French Esq., C, M G
The Governor of the Falkland Islands
Government House
Pt. Stanley
c/o F O Bag Room

Dear Sir,

I would like to set on record Ranger Oil (UK) Limited's interest in exploring for petroleum in offshore areas surrounding the Falkland Islands.

Ranger Oil (UK) Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ranger Oil (Canada) Limited and I enclose for your information a copy of our 1974 Annual Report and Accounts. Ranger has been active in exploration in the North Sea since 1964 and maintains an experienced team of engineers, geologists, geophysicists and management personnel for work in the North Sea and other parts of the world. Ranger has an interest in eleven blocks in the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea and operates ten of the blocks on behalf of itself and other companies. Since 1972 Ranger has drilled seven offshore exploratory wells in the North Sea and has participated in the drilling of eleven other wells. In January 1974 the Ranger Group and British Petroleums discovered the Ninian oil field, which is the third largest oil field in the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea and which is now being developed with a view to landing oil at Sullom Voe in the Shetland Islands through a 36" pipeline in early 1978.

Ranger is also the operator for a consortium of companies which is exploring four permits which we have been awarded off the Atlantic coast of Spain. Our exploration staff are now engaged in research on numerous other projects in other areas throughout the world and we believe that one of the more prospective areas that has yet to be explored is the area surrounding the Falkland Islands.

We would be pleased if you would inform us if permits to explore these areas could be made available either now or in the future and what would be the best procedure for us to acquire such a permit.

enc at back

cc: Mr N Lamour - Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Yours faithfully, RANGER OIL (UK) LIMITED

J U Newman Vice President

JJN/ol

J. M. PIERCE (Canadian)

E. H. VESTEY

A. B. HENDERSON

The Chief Secretary, Secretariat, Stanley, Falkland Islands.

10th February, 1976.

J.C. Newman Esq., Vice President. Ranger Oil (UK) Ltd., Glen House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5AG.

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter of 23rd January 1976 addressed to His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency has asked me to reply on his behalf.

- 2. Your interest in exploring for petroleum in off-shore areas surrounding the Falkland Islands has been noted.
- 5. I am directed to inform you that, as the formulation of a licensing policy for such exploration has not yet been completed and involves consultation between this Government and Her Majesty's Government, I regret that we are not yet in a position to accept any formal applications or fees for exploration rights.
- 4. However, I am to assure you that your interest will be borne in mind if and when the time comes to invite applications for licences.

Yours faithfully,

A.J.P. Nonk CHIEF SECRETARY

c.c. D.G.F. Hall, L.A.D.