

RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF

AND RETURN TO:
Santa Fe Pacific Gold Corporation
Attn: Lease Records
Box 27019
Albuquerque, NM 87125

158095

PARTIAL RELEASE OF LEASE OPTION AGREEMENT

SANTA FE ENERGY RESOURCES, INC., successor in interest by merger to Santa Fe Energy Operating Partners, L.P. and Santa Fe Energy Company, whose address is 1616 S. Voss Rd., Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77057 does hereby release, relinquish and surrender all of its right, title and interest in and to that certain Lease Option Agreement by and between Santa Fe Pacific Railway Company, a Federal Corporation and Santa Fe Energy Company, a Texas Corporation, made and effective on the 9th day of October, 1987, a memorandum of which is recorded at Book _____, Page _____ of the Records of Eureka County, Nevada, Santa Fe Energy Company, made and effective on the 9th day of October, 1987, a memorandum of insofar and only insofar as it covers the land located in Eureka County, Nevada and referenced hereto and described in Exhibit "A" attached to this Partial Release of Lease Option Agreement.

Executed this 16th day of May, 1995.

SANTA FE ENERGY RESOURCES, INC.

By:

J. L. Bridwell
S. Vice President

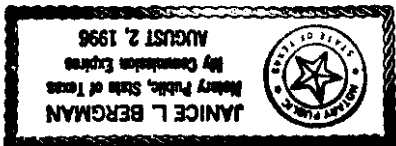
STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HARRIS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared J. L. Bridwell, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument as S. Vice President of SANTA FE ENERGY RESOURCES, INC. and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and in the capacity therein stated, and as the act and deed of said corporation, on behalf of said corporation.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of office this 18th day of May, 1995.

Janice L. Bergman
Notary Public in and for the
State of Texas



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My Commission Expires: Aug 2, 1996

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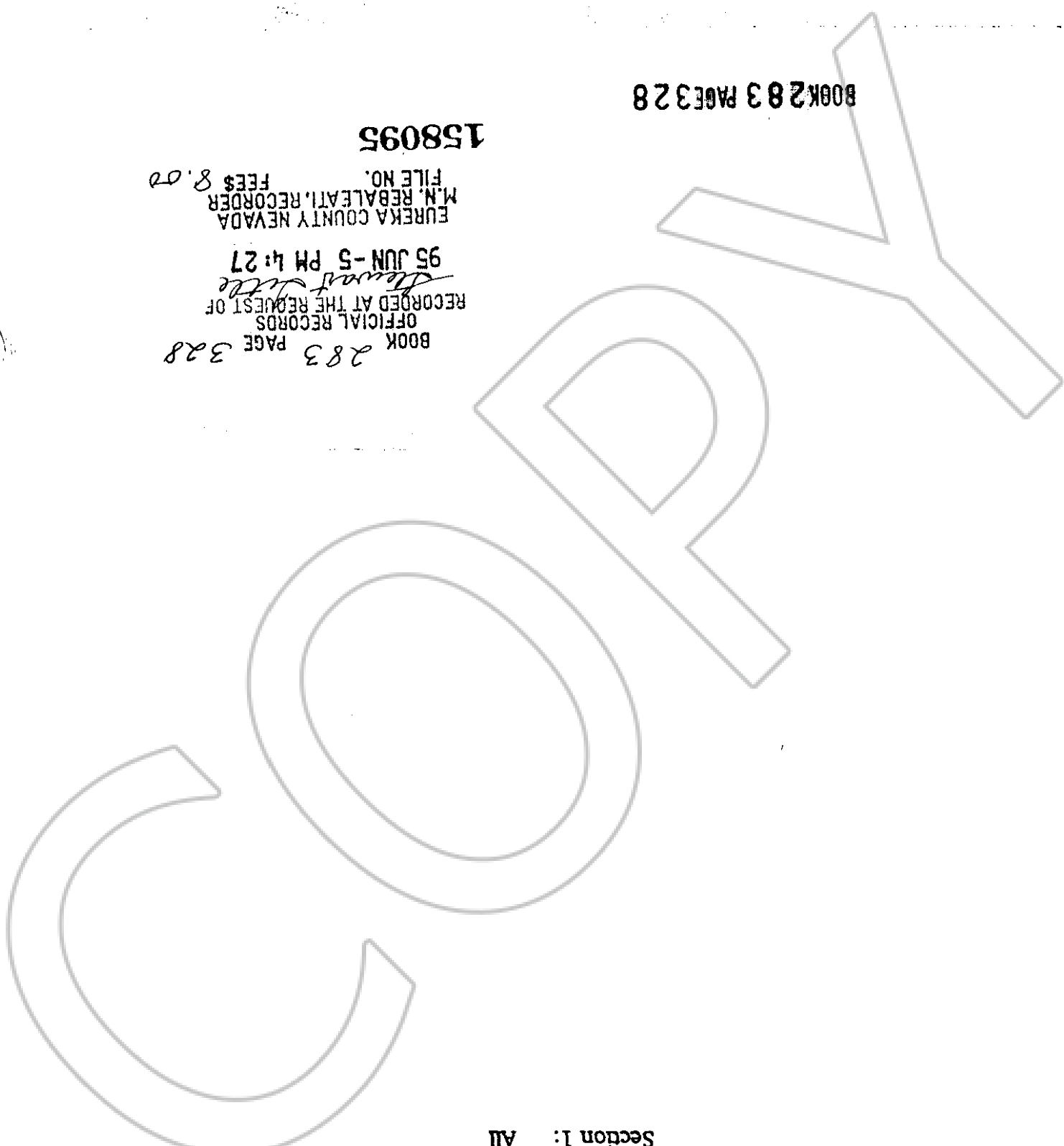
EXHIBIT A

to Partial Release of
Lease Option Agreement

Eureka County, Nevada

Township 36 North, Range 39 East, MDM
Section 35: SE/4

Township 35 North, Range 49 East, MDM
Section 1: All



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OFFICIAL RECORDS
RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF
Mount Title
95 JUN -5 PM 4: 27
EUREKA COUNTY NEVADA
M.N. REBAL/EA/II, RECORDER
FILE NO. FEES \$ 8.00
158095