ST MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO Form PRE 14A April 01, 2002

April 1, 2001

Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20549

RE: St. Mary Land & Exploration Company File No. 0-20872

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Transmitted herewith is St. Mary Land & Exploration Company's Proxy Statement submitted on Schedule 14A. The Company intends to send the Proxy Statement to its Shareholders' on or about April 15, 2002.

Very truly yours,

/s/ RICHARD C. NORRIS

Richard C. Norris Vice President - Finance, Secretary and Treasurer