January 3, 2005

The Honorable Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.
Office of the Governor
210 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-0601

Dear Governor Huntsman:

On behalf of the member states of the Interstate Mining Compact Commission (IMCC), I send hearty congratulations on your election as Governor of Utah. During your administration you will be called upon to make many decisions concerning the development of natural resources and related environmental protection that will not only affect your state, but the entire country. Utah is an important mineral producing state and, as such, plays a key role in our nation’s overall minerals position and energy picture. The IMCC stands ready to assist you and your administration in carrying out these important responsibilities.

Utah has been a valuable and productive member of the Interstate Mining Compact Commission since its entry in this organization in 2004 as an associate member. As you may know, the Compact’s purposes are to advance the protection and restoration of lands, water and other resources affected by mining through the encouragement of programs in each of the party states that will achieve comparable results in protecting, conserving and improving the usefulness of natural resources and to assist in achieving and maintaining an efficient, productive and economically viable mining industry. Participation in the Compact as a full member is gained through the enactment of legislation by the states authorizing their entry into the Compact. The states are represented by their respective Governors who serve as Commissioners.

When an ad hoc committee of the Southern Governor’s Conference along with the Council of State Governments designed the IMCC, they recognized the time constraints under which a governor has to work. Therefore, it was provided in the Compact that the governors could designate alternates to express their wishes and to vote for them on matters concerning the Compact. This designation would be in writing and kept on file in the Compact’s office. During the past administration we worked closely with Ms Mary Ann Wright, Acting Director of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (DOGM), who has served as the Governor’s official representative to the Compact. We will await your appointment of an official delegate to the Compact as your schedule permits. In the meantime, we will continue to work closely with Ms Wright and the other dedicated state employees who assist us from time to time.
To acquaint you with the IMCC, please find enclosed a copy of the Compact, which includes our bylaws. Also enclosed is a copy of our annual report which will acquaint you with the several significant issues and concerns that we currently are pursuing.

The Commission is looking forward to working with you and your designated representative to accomplish our common goal of an environmentally and economically sound minerals industry. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 24-27, 2005 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. We hope your state will be represented. In the meantime, should you have any questions or require additional information about the Compact, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gregory E. Conrad
Executive Director

cc: Mary Ann Wright