



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Lieutenant Governor

March 29, 2005

Dan Baker, President
Bronco Energy Fund
2920 North Swan Road, Suite 206
Tucson, Arizona 85712
FAX (435) 438-6157

Subject: Coal Mine Permit Reviews

Dear Mr. Baker:

The review of coal mine permit applications is outlined in Utah coal mining regulations:

- R645-300-131.110. Application review will not exceed the following time periods:
 - 131.111. Permit change applications.
 - 131.111.1 Significant Revision – 120 days
 - 131.111.2 Amendments – 60 days
 - 131.112. Permit renewal – 120 days
 - 131.113. New underground mine applications – one year.**

The one-year time period for the new underground mine application will be counted as cumulative days of Division review and will not include operator response time or time delays attributed to informal or formal conferences or Board hearings. The quality of the permit application has a direct bearing on the review time.

I would strongly suggest setting up a predesign meeting to include your permitting consultant when you have a draft surface facilities and underground mine plan design. Discussing and planning the mine in concert with our team of reviewers will help avert permitting stumbling blocks that get created by insufficient communication. Meeting early and often makes for the best permitting scenario.

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If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5268.

Sincerely,

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

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