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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

## Division of Oil Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

May 28, 2008

James Fulton  
Denver Field Division  
Office of Surface Mining  
P. O. Box 46667  
Denver, CO 80201-6667

Re: Formal Program Amendment Pertaining to the Utah Coal Rules: Sealing Of Wells, Catchall Statements, Intermittent Stream

Dear Mr. Fulton:

In accordance with 30 CFR 732.17, the Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining hereby submits a formal program amendment to the Office of Surface Mining in conjunction with modifications made to state rules for Utah's Coal Regulatory Program. As you may recall, the Utah Mining Association requested the study of rules in five areas in November 2006, and this process resulted in amended rules on the three topics of sealing of wells, catchall statements, and intermittent stream.

Your office has previously informally reviewed these modifications, and we appreciate your input into the informal rulemaking process via your letters dated September 4, 2007, November 26, 2007, and December 31, 2007. The rule amendments were later passed by the Board of Oil, Gas & Mining on March 26, 2008 and were published in the Utah State Bulletin on April 15, 2008.

Enclosed are the rule amendments in underline/strike-out format, comparisons to the respective federal regulations, rationale for the changes, and a letter from our Attorney General's Office regarding the amendments not conflicting with existing state law or rules.

If there are any questions, please contact Steve Schneider at [steveschneider@utah.gov](mailto:steveschneider@utah.gov) or 801-538-5328.

Sincerely,

John R. Baza  
Director

Enclosures  
cc: Dana Dean

