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DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

File Act/007/001

FROM: John Livesay

DATE: July 30, 1981

TO: Doug Day
Attention: Darrell Nish

SUBJECT:

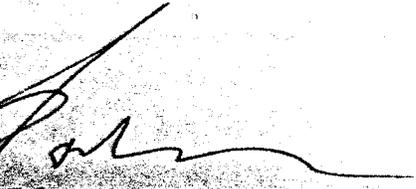
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AUG 3 1981
Utah State Dept. of Health
Environmental Health

The two water samples that accompany this memo were taken at about 10 AM on July 27, 1981 by Larry Dalton and Randy Radant. Sample No. 1 was taken from Eccles Creek immediately upstream from its confluence with Whiskey Creek. Sample No. 2 was taken from Whiskey Creek immediately upstream from its confluence with Eccles Creek. Both samples were taken as down-dips in relation to the stream flow. It is important to note that no precipitation events occurred in the general area during the 24 hours that preceded the sample being taken.

Please have the Department of Health analyze these for turbidity and total suspended solids.

Eccles Creek is of high-priority value to the State's fishery management program and is a class 3 fishery. Sample No. 1 shows the water's character in Eccles Creek despite upstream highway construction. Sample No. 2 shows an impact to Whiskey Creek from Valley Camp of Utah's Belina mining operation. Normally, water quality in Whiskey Creek should be expected to be better than that in Eccles Creek. Whiskey Creek does not support fishes and is a tributary of Eccles Creek. Impacts to Whiskey result in impacts to Eccles Creek.

At which time that the results of the analysis are returned, please notify the Region, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and the Department of Health. Without doubt the impact to Whiskey Creek is a violation of the State's coal mining regulations and the Company's NPDES permit.


John Livesay

JL:LBD:gp