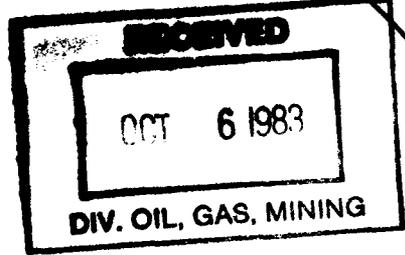


STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY
Wildlife Resources

1596 West North Temple • Salt Lake City, UT 84116 • 801-533-9333

File ACT/007/001
Folder No. 2
Copy to Tam T.,
Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
Douglas F. Day, Division Director
Lynn Shannon
Steve Manger
Denver

October 4, 1983



JMM
OCT 12 1983

Mr. Jim Shirazi, Director
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

ATTN: Jim Smith

Subject: The Reclamation Plan and Proposed Post-Mining Land Use for the Belina Mine Complex

Dear Jim:

The Division on September 29, 1983, reviewed a document provided by Valley Camp Coal Company concerning their reclamation plan and proposed post-mining land uses for the Belina Mining Complex.

The plan is adequate as it relates to the wildlife resource. It seems, from review of the plan, that the riparian habitat has been lost in the area of the portals for the Belina #1 and #2 Mines, and will at the time of reclamation represent even more habitat than in its pre-mining condition. Additionally, the company's plans to retain the sediment pond in that same area as a permanent feature of the landscape is considered to be a valuable enhancement feature to the local wildlife habitat. The company should be commended for their innovative and progressive ideas.

It appears that the haul and access road to the Belina #1 and #2 Mines is slated to remain as a component of the landscape in the post-mining period. From a position of the wildlife resource, it would be best if this road and the culvert associated with it in Eccles Creek were removed upon abandonment of the facilities. However, if the landowners elect to retain the road, then obviously the culvert must be retained.

Jim, thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on Valley Camp's project. At this time, we have no further comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

Douglas F. Day
Douglas F. Day, Director
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Acting Director