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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

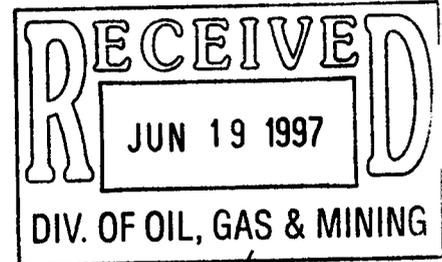
Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Ferron/Price Ranger District
Price Work Center
599 West Price River Drive
Price, Utah 84501

File Code: 2820-4

Date: June 17, 1997

Lowell Braxton
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
1594 W. North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801



Dear Lowell:

~~ACT/007/001~~ ACT/007/001 #2
Copy
Aaron
PAM

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service are evaluating an application by White Oak Mining and Construction Company to modify federal coal lease U-017354 in Emery County for coal development. The lease modification area lies to the south of White Oak's current permit area as shown on the attached map. Access will be through the active mine workings. A lease modification is the addition of lands to an actively held lease.

The lease modification area encompasses about 160 acres of federal coal lands contained within the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The BLM administers all Federal Coal Leases, and Forest Service consent is required prior to issuance of any modification by the BLM. The two agencies are jointly conducting an environmental analysis according to 43 CFR 3400 and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Because negligible impacts to surface resources are anticipated, and current lease stipulations in effect would mitigate potential impacts, the agencies are considering a categorical exclusion for this lease modification. This means that an environmental assessment (EA) or an environmental impact statement (EIS) would not be prepared. The modification would be excluded from further analysis under a category established by the Chief in the Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, 31.1b, (7); sale or exchange of land or interest in land or resources where resulting land use remains essentially the same.

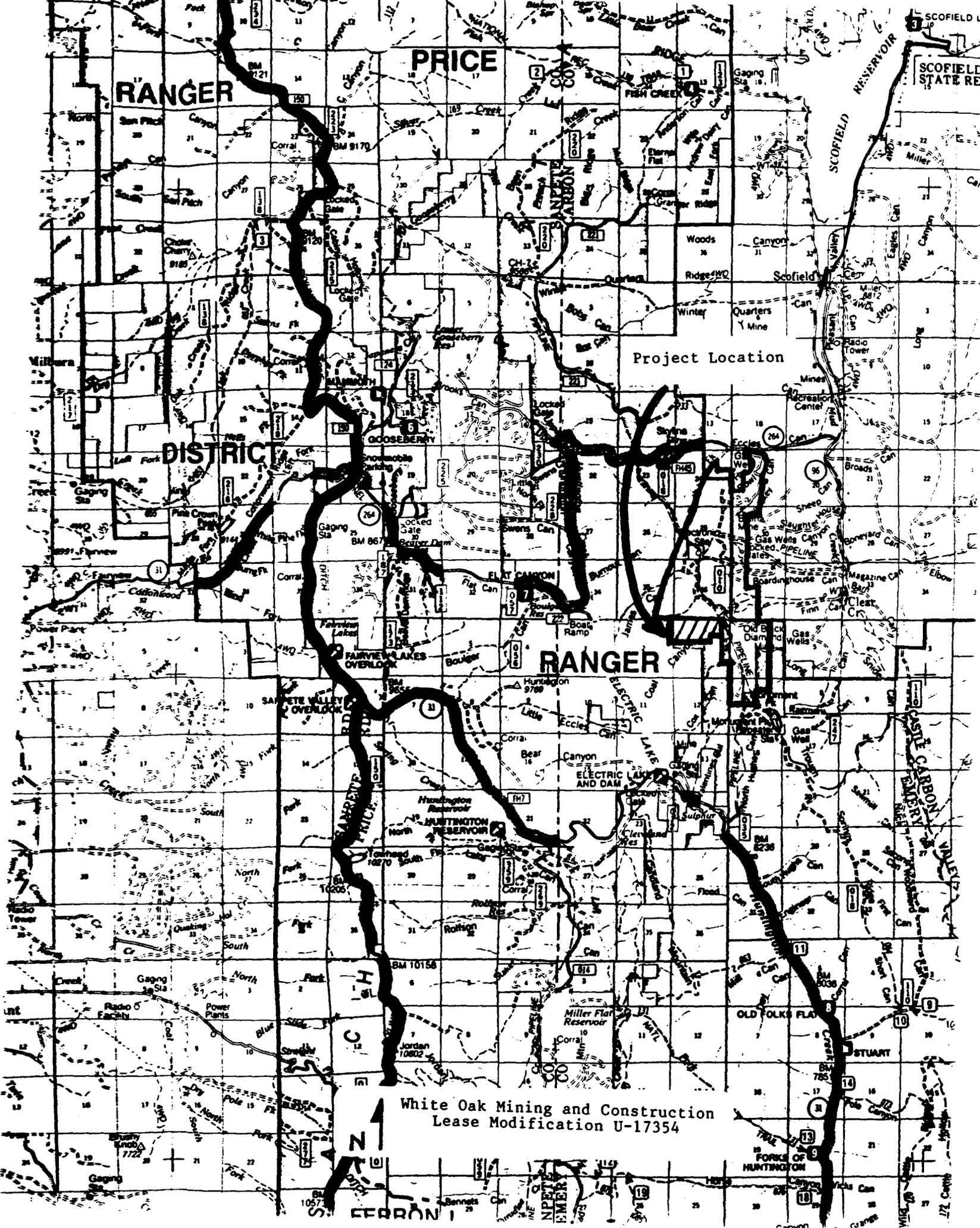
If you wish to comment on the proposed lease modification, please submit your comments to the Manti-La Sal National Forest, 599 W. Price River Dr., Price, UT 84501 by close of business on **June 27, 1997**. Should you have questions or require additional information regarding this proposal, please contact Carter Reed or Liane Mattson at (801) 637-2817.

Sincerely,

for *Charles J. Jankiewicz*
CHARLES J. JANKIEWICZ
District Ranger

Enclosures

cc: Forest Supervisor



PRICE

RANGER

DISTRICT

RANGER

Project Location

White Oak Mining and Construction
Lease Modification U-17354

FERRON

SCOTFIELD LA
SCOTFIELD STATE REC

CASTLE CARBON ENERGY

OLD FOLKS FLAT

STUART

TRAIL

FORKS OF HUNTINGTON

FERRON

NEPHEW EMER

WILEY

172 Camp