



# State of Utah

Department of Community & Economic Development  
Division of State History  
Utah State Historical Society



Michael O. Leavitt  
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August 20, 1997

Janette S. Kaiser, Forest Supervisor  
Manti-La Sal National Forest  
599 West Price River Drive  
Price UT 84501

RE: Proposed White Oak's Mining Lease Modification U-017354

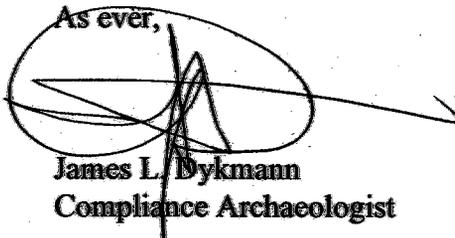
In Reply Please Refer to Case No. 94-1169

Dear Ms. Kaiser:

The Utah State Historic Preservation Office received the above referenced proposal on August 8, 1997. After consideration of the project letter, the Utah Preservation Office concurs with the Forest Services determination that, the White Oak's Mining Lease Modification Project area has a low potential to contain significant historic resources. Therefore a determination of No Effect is appropriate.

This information is provided on request to assist the Forest Service with its Section 106 responsibilities as specified in §36CFR800. If you have questions, please contact me at (801) 533-3555, or Barbara L. Murphy at (801) 533-3563. My email address is: [jdykman@history.state.ut.us](mailto:jdykman@history.state.ut.us)

As ever,



James L. Dykmann  
Compliance Archaeologist

JLD:94-1169 FS/NE

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Streaming

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service  
Manti-La Sal  
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.  
Price, Utah 84501  
Phone # (801) 637-2817  
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Reply to: 2820/2360

Date: August 4, 1997

Mr. Max Evans  
Division of State History  
300 Rio Grande  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

RE: Determination of Effect on Cultural Resources: Proposed White Oak's Mining Lease Modification U-017354, Price/Ferron Ranger District, Manti-La Sal National Forest, Emery County, Utah.

Dear Mr. Evans:

On April 28, 1997, White Oak Mining and Construction Company (White Oak) filed an amended application with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to modify federal coal lease U-017354. The modification is to add lands in section 1, lots 2, 3, and 4, N1/2 of SE1/4 of NW1/4 and the N1/2 of the SW1/4 and NW1/4. T.14S, R.6y, SLM, containing approximately 160 acres to their existing lease. The BLM has initially determined that it is in the public interest to modify this lease to allow mining of federal coal that would otherwise be bypassed.

Effects on the environment could result from surface-disturbing activities such as subsidence. No new effects on the environment have been identified beyond those described in the Manti-La Sal Forest Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement, 1986, Environmental Analysis Report/Technical Examination Readjustment of Federal Coal Lease U-017354, 9/77; Environmental Assessment for Readjustment of Federal Coal Lease U-017354, 3/86; Readjustment of Federal Coal Lease U-017354, 9/95. The Manti-La Sal National Forest has reviewed the above-mentioned project which is located in the Price Ranger District.

A literature search was conducted to identify known/suspected sites in the project area. This search reviewed:

1. Land Classification Atlas-Manti National Forest (1917)
2. Manti National Forest Maps (1920)
3. Manti Working Circle Timber Survey (1929)
4. Manti National Forest Map (1913)
5. Government Land Office Maps (1885-1892)

One undocumented coal prospect shows up in the project area on a 1875 GLO map. No other historic structures or features were located on any of the maps mentioned above.

In addition to the above historic literature the Manti-La Sal N.F. Project and Site Atlas maps and project reports were consulted. The following cultural resource surveys have been conducted within one mile of the White Oak's Mining Lease Modification Project area:

\*ML-75-028 An Archaeological Survey of Drill Locations in the Scofield, Utah Area, by F. R. Hauck, Archaeological-Environmental Resources Corporation (AERC). Four small drill pad areas, less than one acre each, was surveyed. No cultural resources were located by this survey.

\*ML-84-357 Cultural Resource Inventory Near Clear Creek, Utah for Valley Camp of Utah, Inc. By V. Garth Norman, Archaeological Research Consultants. This survey inventoried ca. 230 acres and located two historic sites ML-2573 (42CB439), an early 1900's sheep camp, and 2574 (42CB440), the remnants of an old cabin dating to about 1900. Neither of the sites are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Both sites are ca. one-half mile east of the White Oak's Lease Modification boundary.

\*ML-90-535 (USHPO # U-89-FS-638f) Finn Canyon Timber Sale. By B. Broadbear, U.S. Forest Service. This survey covered approximately two acres, no cultural resources were located.

In conclusion, Forest Heritage Staff have determined that the White Oak's Mining Lease Modification Project area has low potential to contain significant historic resources that will be affected by underground mining and related subsidence impacts. Review of available data indicates that one historic coal prospect (undocumented) is located within the project area. Despite the fact that this resource has not been documented, we believe there will be no effects to it for the following reasons. This project, as designed will be an underground, supported mining operation which will mine under only some portions of the 160 acre addition. Due to the amount of overburden, negligible effects are anticipated from subsidence, and BLM studies of the area project that virtually no surface disturbance is expected to take place. Therefore, the forest has determined that the authorization of underground mining proposed under the White Oak Lease Modification will not affect historic properties.

Stipulations (Forest Management Plan, Appendix B, Special Stipulations for Federal Regulations 43 CFR 3400) for the original lease #U-017354 state that cultural or paleontological resources discovered during operations under this lease, shall immediately be brought to the attention of the appropriate authority. These sites would be inventoried and evaluated. Appropriate follow-up Section 106 consultation would take place at that time.

Mr. Max Evans

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We would appreciate your review and comments on the proposed lease modification. If you have any questions, please contact District archaeologist Barbara Blackshear at (801) 283-4151, or Forest archaeologist Stan McDonald or myself at (801) 637-2817. We appreciate the assistance of the Division and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janette S. Kaiser".

JANETTE S. KAISER  
Forest Supervisor

cc:

S. McDonald, SO  
B. Blackshear, D1  
L. Mattson, SO