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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 16, 2001

David Miller, Resident Agent
Lodestar Energy, Inc.
HC 35 Box 370
Helper, Utah 84526

Re: Abandonment of Equipment in Underground Mines, Lodestar Energy, Inc., White Oak Mine, C/007/001, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Miller:

It has recently come to our attention that Lodestar Energy Inc. may soon be closing and sealing the White Oak Mines. An issue of concern that often occurs during a mine closure is the abandonment of equipment and machinery at the soon to be sealed mine. Abandonment of Mining Machinery must be authorized by the Division of Oil Gas and Mining in accordance with the following regulations found in the 301 section of the R645 rules:

747.100. Non coal mine waste, including but not limited to grease, lubricants, paints, flammable liquids, garbage, machinery, lumber and other combustible materials generated during coal mining and reclamation operations will be placed and stored in a controlled manner in a designated portion of the permit area or state-approved solid waste disposal area.

747.200. Placement and storage of Non coal mine waste within the permit area will ensure that leachate and surface runoff do not degrade surface or ground water.

747.300. Final disposal of Non coal mine waste within the permit area will ensure that leachate and drainage does not degrade surface or underground water.

750. Performance Standards.

All coal mining and reclamation operations will be conducted to minimize disturbance to the Hydrologic balance within the permit and adjacent areas, to prevent material damage to the Hydrologic

balance outside the permit area and support approved postmining land uses in accordance with the terms and conditions of the approved permit and the performance standards of R645-301 and R645-302.

We encourage the removal of all equipment and machinery from the mine when possible and safe to do so. In the event that Lodestar Energy Inc. has plans to abandon mining machinery underground, approval must first be obtained through the amendment process. You must provide the following documentation in accordance with the above-cited regulations to be incorporated as an amendment into the respective Mining and Reclamation Plan.

1. A map designating the final disposal location of the abandoned mining machinery.
2. A description of the equipment or machinery being abandoned and its condition upon abandonment.
3. A revision to the Probable Hydrologic Consequences (PHC) document which discusses the abandonment of the mining machinery and describes the potential for any Hydrologic impacts as a result of the abandonment.

Hopefully, this information will aid you in complying with the regulatory requirements. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

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cc: Mary Ann Wright
Richard Manus, BLM
Carter Reed, USFS