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United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
POST OFFICE BLDG. RM. 270  
1823 STOUT STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

5 OCT 1979

Mr. Jackson W. Moffit  
Area Mining Supervisor  
U.S. Geological Survey, Conservation  
Division  
8426 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Dear Mr. Moffit:

As you requested, the Office of Surface Mining has reviewed the exploration plan for Eureka Energy Company. We offer the following comments:

Site No. 1 has been given archaeological clearance in 1978. However, it is not stated whether Site No. 2 or Site No. 3 has had a cultural resource inventory. An inventory should be made by the BLM of the two sites to include access roads and associated buffers in order to give these areas an archaeological clearance.

The drilling and reclamation plan looks adequate. However, we recommend that the reclamation seed mixture be modified by replacing crested wheat grass (Agropyron desertorum) with another wheat grass such as western wheat grass. Crested wheat grass has been found to dominate and not allow invasion of native species. If seeding is to be done by broadcast seeding methods, the total amount of seed mix should be doubled as recommended in "Revegetation Guidelines for Surface Mined Area," C. Wayne Cook, Robert M. Hyde, and Philip L. Sims, Colorado State University, Science Series No. 16, December, 1974.

A copy of this response has been sent to Utah's Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

Sincerely,

DONALD A. CRANE

✓ cc: Ron Daniels

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