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PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY

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File ACT/007/004
To Wayne
Jim

November 19, 1980

RECEIVED

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

State of Utah
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Attention: Mr. James W. Smith, Jr.
Coordinator of Mined Land Development

Re: Request for Variance

Gentlemen:

Price River Coal Company requests a variance from the Surface Mining Provisions requiring the placing of cross drains in the Sowbelly Gulch access road.

Historically, drainage along this road has been maintained on both sides of the road to its junction with Spring Canyon - at this point, both drainages merge into Spring Canyon.

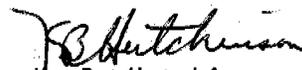
Placing cross drains in this road will only serve to break up an established road bed, which will cause more erosion, as well as increasing the cost of drainage control and final reclamation.

Current plans call for phasing out operations in Sowbelly in about four years.

In view of the above facts, Price River Coal Company asks for favorable consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY


K. B. Hutchinson
Chief Engineer

KBH:ga