

0021 Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Moab District

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To : Center Administrator, OSM, Denver
Attention: David Maxwell, Steven Manger
FROM: MINE District Manager, Moab District

Date: SEP 01 1983

JIM

SUBJECT: Abandoned Coal Reject Pile (MSHA No. 1211-UT-9-0023) Price River Coal Company

SEP 08 1983

Price River Coal Company has conducted a historical search for the source of an abandoned coal reject pile near the mouth of Panther Canyon (near old Castle Gate, Utah). It was reported in a letter from Price River Coal Company dated July 29, 1983 (copy enclosed) that the reject coal pile was abandoned in 1960. It was also reported that the first time a Federal coal lease was mined from the Castle Gate mine was in 1963 when the mine connected with the Kenilworth mine. As indicated by the letter, Federal coal could not be included in the reject pile.

We are in agreement with the account presented by Price River Coal; therefore, in our judgment, royalty is not due the Federal Government. The reject pile is located on land owned or controlled by Price River Coal. Accordingly, we do not have any objections to the plan to dispose of the pile as submitted by the company.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Allen Vance of our Price office ((801) 637-4584 or Lynn Jackson of our Moab office ((801) 259-6111).

/s/ Gary L. Hansen

Enclosure:
Price River Coal Co. letter
dated July 29, 1983

cc: Dept. of Oil, Gas & Mining
State of Utah Natural Resources
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

ALVance: ds: 8/30/83

SEP 02 1983

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY

P.O. BOX 629 HELPER, UTAH 84526 (801) 472-3411

July 29, 1983

CERTIFIED RECEIPT REQUESTED
Certified No. 562075



Mr. Jackson W. Moffitt
Bureau of Land Management
2040 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

Re: Heiner Reject Pile (MSHA No. 1211-UT-9-0023)

Dear Mr. Moffitt:

In 1895 the Castle Gate mines started dumping reject in a pile near the Price River just north of the mouth of Panther Canyon. In 1940 the first coal preparation plant was built in Castle Gate and the quantity being placed on the pile increased.

The pile was almost continually burning and on one occasion a major fire engulfed the entire pile. After that fire, layers of dirt were laid between layers of reject to help reduce the fire problem.

The pile was abandoned in 1960 because the pile had become too large and was difficult to dump on and to control fires.

In 1963 (3 years after the pile was abandoned) the Castle Gate mine connected to the Kenilworth mine. This was the first time a federal coal lease was mined from Castle Gate; therefore, none of the reject in the pile could have come from a federal coal lease.

Note: Historical information obtained from Boyd Harvey and John Tallerico. Both men at different times served as superintendent of the Castle Gate mines.

Very truly yours,

PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY

Laine Adair
Planning Engineer

LA:jp

cc: K. Hutchinson
R. Wiley
G. Cook