

**SOUTHEASTERN UTAH  
DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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- P.O. Box 644, Castle Dale, Utah 84513 -- 381-2252
- P.O. Drawer E, Moab, Utah 84532 -- 259-5602
- P.O. Box 127, Monticello, Utah 84535 -- 587-2021
- P.O. Box 545, Blanding, Utah 84511 -- 678-2723

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*ACT/007/004-#7*

June 13, 1983

Mr. Ken Wyatt  
Division of Oil Gas and Mining  
Room 4241 State Office Building  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Wyatt:

We would like to take this opportunity to communicate to you our concerns regarding the erosion of the Price River Coal Company slag coal pile into the Price River.

In the past several days we have received a number of complaints from farmers in the area who have experienced coal slack being deposited on their fields. This has resulted in the water ditches being sealed making it impossible for the water to soak into the ground.

Our investigation of the complaint unveiled that an old pile of coal slag and coal slack is located on the banks of the Price River on ground presently owned by Price River Coal Co. The pile is approximately 400 feet long and 40 feet high.

Due to the high water level of the Price River, the pile is being washed into the river and is being carried downstream. At the present time the whole face of the pile is in the water. There is evidence of massive slides into the water from this coal pile.

While there does not appear to be a health hazard created from this situation, it does effect a considerable number downstream water users.

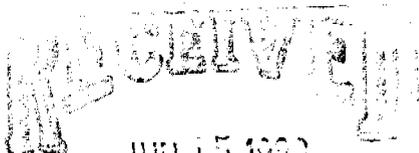
Any involvement you can have in a satisfactory resolution of this problem would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Gerald C. Story*

Gerald C. Story  
Environmental Health Director

GCS/jt



JUN 15 1983

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING