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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
Dr. G. A. (Jim) Shirazi, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

December 21, 1983

Mr. Gordon Cook
Vice-President
Price River Coal Company
P. O. Box 629
Helper, Utah 84526

ACT/007/004
#8

RE: Newly Appointed
Assessment Officers

Dear Mr. Cook:

The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining has appointed the following individuals to act as Assessment Officers under SMC/UMC 845.

Mary Ann Wright, DOGM Program Specialist for Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, has been appointed Assessment Officer responsible for assessing penalties under SMC/UMC 845.11 - 845.17. This appointment will be effective December 15, 1983 for all new cases. Ron Daniels, the current Assessment Officer, will follow through with existing cases.

Lorin Nielsen, Department of Natural Resources, Associate Director for Energy and Minerals, has been appointed Assessment Officer responsible for conducting assessment conferences under SMC/UMC 845.18. The appointment will be effective January 1, 1984. Ultimately, these duties will also be handled pending Board appointment, within the Division. However, this cannot be accomplished at this time.

The reason for these new appointments is two-fold. First, a separation of assessment officers' duties, as above, has been recommended by OSM. Currently, Ron Daniels, DOGM Associate Director for Mining, is fulfilling both duties. Second, a separation of these responsibilities helps to avoid conflicts of interest in the duties and provides for a broader base for assessing, reassessing, and appealing penalties with the Division.

Thank you for your assistance in implementing these changes. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Best Regards,

Dianne R. Nielson
Director

DRN/ml1