

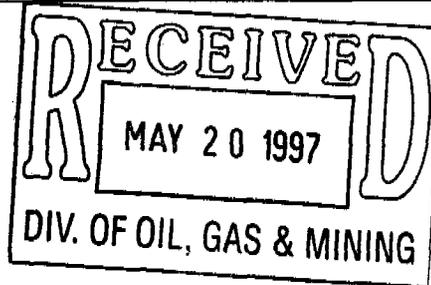
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**CYPRUS PLATEAU
MINING CORPORATION**
A Cyprus Amax Company

Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
Post Office Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-2875

May 19, 1997



Mr. Joseph C. Helfrich
Permit Supervisor
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Re: Request for Extension to Castle Gate and Willow Creek Mine Permit Deficiencies,
ACT/007/004-95E, 96G, and 96L, and ACT/007/038-96F, respectively.

Dear Mr. Helfrich: *#2*

AMAX Coal Company and Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation are requesting a minor extension for addressing the deficiencies listed in the Division's letters dated April 24 and 25, 1997. Efforts are underway to respond to the deficiencies and for the most part complete, but the onerous undertaking in generating the volumes of information, five-four volume sets for Castle Gate and five-eight volume sets for Willow Creek, will require additional time due to our consultant's (EarthFax Engineering) workload.

An extension until June 12, 1997, is requested and should provide the time necessary to reproduce the volumes of information contained within the permit modifications. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Johnny Pappas
Sr. Environmental Engineer

cc: J. Trackemas

Chrono: JP970503.ltr