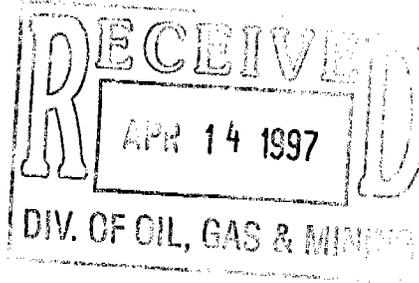




Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
Post Office Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-2875

April 11, 1997

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



Re: Reclamation Bond Adjustments for the Willow Creek and Castle Gate Mines, AMAX Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004-95E?, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Helfrich:

AMAX Coal Company (AMAX) is seeking an extension to its April 15, 1997, deadline regarding the aforementioned. AMAX would like the Division to consider submitting all deficiencies regarding the Willow Creek Mine area deletion from the Castle Gate Mine permit at one time and under one Technical Analysis and Findings Document.

AMAX submitted its permit amendment application to the Division on November 22, 1996, at which time, the Division assigned ACT/007/004-96L, Folder #2, as its permit change tracking number, as identified in your letter dated November 26, 1996. Therefore, the tracking number ACT/007/004-95E, File #2 referenced in your letter dated March 31, 1997, may not be accurate.

Since one permit amendment application was submitted on November 22, 1996, and received the ACT/007/004-96L tracking number, AMAX feels, that in order to minimize any confusion, each deficiency identified by the Division during their review be collated and assembled into one Technical Analysis and Findings Document, similar to the format presently used by the Division during a permit renewal.

AMAX would like an extension until such a Document is generated by the Division and ample time is allowed to address the deficiencies identified by the Division. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (801) 636-2289.

Sincerely,

Johnny Pappas
Sr. Environmental Engineer

cc: J. Trackemas
Chrono: JP970401.ltr