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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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March 30, 1987

Mr. Keith Welch
Coastal States Energy Company
175 East 400 South, Suite 800
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Keith
Dear Mr. Welch:

Re: Skyline Mine Open Coal Storage, ACT/007/005, Carbon County, Utah

Enclosed please find a copy of Mr. Reed Christensen's March 10, 1987 letter enumerating Manti La-Sal National Forest's concerns regarding open coal storage at the Skyline Mine. Our previous discussions on this subject have addressed many of the ramifications of concerns 1 thru 4 enumerated on pages 1 and 2 of his letter. My purpose of writing, then is two fold, first to provide you with a copy of the March 10, 1987 Forest Service letter and secondly to recommend that a meeting between your representatives, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and the U. S. Forest Service be scheduled at a mutually agreeable time. The principle topic of discussion at that meeting would be the progressive reduction in stockpile tonnage noted on page 2, item 6a - d in the attached.

The Division's position is that open coal storage has been approved on a temporary basis in the mining and reclamation plan, and that ultimate resolution of the Forest Service's concerns is necessary but should not be a condition to issuance of the five year permit renewal (review in progress). The final solution to the open coal storage problem (points 3, 4, 5, 6a-d of the attached) must, however, be addressed as an amendment to the MRP when established.

It is my understanding that point 1, page 2 of the enclosed was addressed in previous meetings. I would appreciate written commitment on the part of Skyline to elimination of bank to bank open coal storage, (north storage area) with this commitment to be delivered to the Division on or before April 20, 1987.

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March 30, 1987

It is my understanding that reversal of degradation trends and water quality in Eccles Creek attendant to mining (page 2 point 2, attached) is addressed in an unpublished Division of Wildlife Resources report. DOGM will review these data and report to Skyline and the U. S. Forest Service, regarding these trends. Please contact me at your earliest convenience concerning proposed dates for the above referenced meeting between your representatives and those of the Division and the Forest Service.

Sincerely,



L. P. Braxton
Administrator
Mineral Resource Development
and Reclamation Program

jvb
Enclosure
cc: B. Boley
K. Zobel
K. May
S. Linner
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