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April 11, 1989

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Keith Welch
Environmental Coordinator
Coastal States Energy Company
175 East 400 South
#3 Suite 800
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Re: Total Dissolved Solids Utah Fuel Company
Skyline Mine UT0023540

Dear Mr. Welch:

We have reviewed the 1988 Hydrometrics Inc. report "Evaluation of Salinity Loads From the Utah Fuel Company Skyline Mine". We have also reviewed 1988 water quality data of the mine discharge and 1988-February 1989 UPDES discharge monitoring reports. The data indicates numerous discharges have exceeded the existing permit total dissolved solids (TDS) maximum limit of 700 mg/l.

Because the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum TDS standard of 723 mg/l at Hoover Dam is a yearly average, a yearly average of 723 mg/l now seems reasonable for this mine discharge. Since the discharge is to a stream tributary to the Price River above the Price City Water Treatment Plant, the drinking water recommended maximums of 1000 mg/l TDS and 500 mg/l sulfate are considered appropriate for a discharge maximums. These limitations appear to be achievable by the company because the average of the 1988 monthly averages was 699 mg/l and the maximum 1988 and early 1989 company UPDES data was 958 mg/l TDS. Sulfate has been less than 450 mg/l except for one sample in the last 3 years of data.

These revisions should be included by the Environmental Protection Agency in the 1989 renewal permit.

Sincerely,

Utah Water Pollution Control Committee

Don A. Ostler, P.E.
Executive Secretary

SRM:st

cc: ✓ Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
Dana Allen, EPA Region VIII, Water Management Division
Southeastern District Health Department

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