Mine file
cc: Aaron Haddock

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OIL, GAS & MINING

Utah Fuel Company
A SUBSIDIARY OF THE COASTAL CORPORATION

The Energy People

0053

August 7, 1990

Act/007/005
#2

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton
Associate Director, Mining
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Braxton,

In a letter dated June 4, 1990 we submitted for DOGM's review a geotechnical study of the potential short and long term effects of mining a five entry mains development beneath the Huntington Creek buffer zone. On July 11, 1990, Mark Bunnell and Craig Hilton of our office met with Ira Hatch, Aaron Howe, and Carter Reed of the U.S. Forest Service to discuss the geotechnical study and the potential of mining beneath the buffer zone. We have also finalized a mine design which allows us to negotiate a large fault encountered in the study area and better defines actual location of planned mining within the buffer zone.. During the course of our meeting with the Forest Service it was suggested we include the finalized design in the approval process. This design is shown in figure 1.

Another item discussed during our meeting was the possibility of ammending our request to allow mining of five-entry developments beneath subsidence buffer zones throughout the leasehold as long as pillars are no less than 75 by 75 ft. (95 by 95 ft. centers) and no secondary mining of pillars occurs. A suggestion was also made by Carter Reid that we begin monitoring any long-term subsidence of mains by installing permanent survey monuments over existing mains and/or other "first mining" areas. These data would provide good long-term information on any potential effects of pillar yielding or entry failure. Figure 2 shows several potential study areas where premanent survey monuments could be installed at a variety of overburden depths.

With the above points in mind, Utah Fuel Company would like to amend its request for permission to mine within the Huntington Creek buffer zone as follows:

1. *The study by Ken Ko indicates that no potential for subsidence exists as a result of developing a 5-entry mains beneath the northern portion of the Huntington*

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Creek buffer zone. Because the study area is in the area of greatest overburden thickness of any perennial stream buffer zone on the leasehold, subsidence effects are even less likely in other buffer areas. We request permission to mine entry developments with pillars no smaller than 75 by 75 ft. (95 by 95 ft. centers) beneath all perennial stream buffer zones, unless previously approved by DOGM. No more than five 20 ft. wide entries will be allowed unless approved by DOGM in advance.

2. Permanent survey monuments will be installed in several locations above existing mains developments as shown in figure 2. These points will be checked yearly and data will be submitted to DOGM with the yearly subsidence report. Monuments could be installed by October 15, 1990.

Because of the encountered fault and other development needs, our schedule for mining into the Huntington Creek buffer zone has been delayed to mid-October, 1990.

We appreciate your consideration of this amended request. To expedite the approval process, we have already forwarded a copy of this letter to Ira Hatch, District Ranger with the U.S. Forest Service.

Please feel free to contact Mark Bunnell of my office at any time if you have questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Glen A. Zumwalt
Vice Presdent/General Manager
Utah Fuel Company

GAZ:MB:dk

Attachments

cc: W/Attachment
Craig Hilton
Mark Bunnell
Keith Zobell

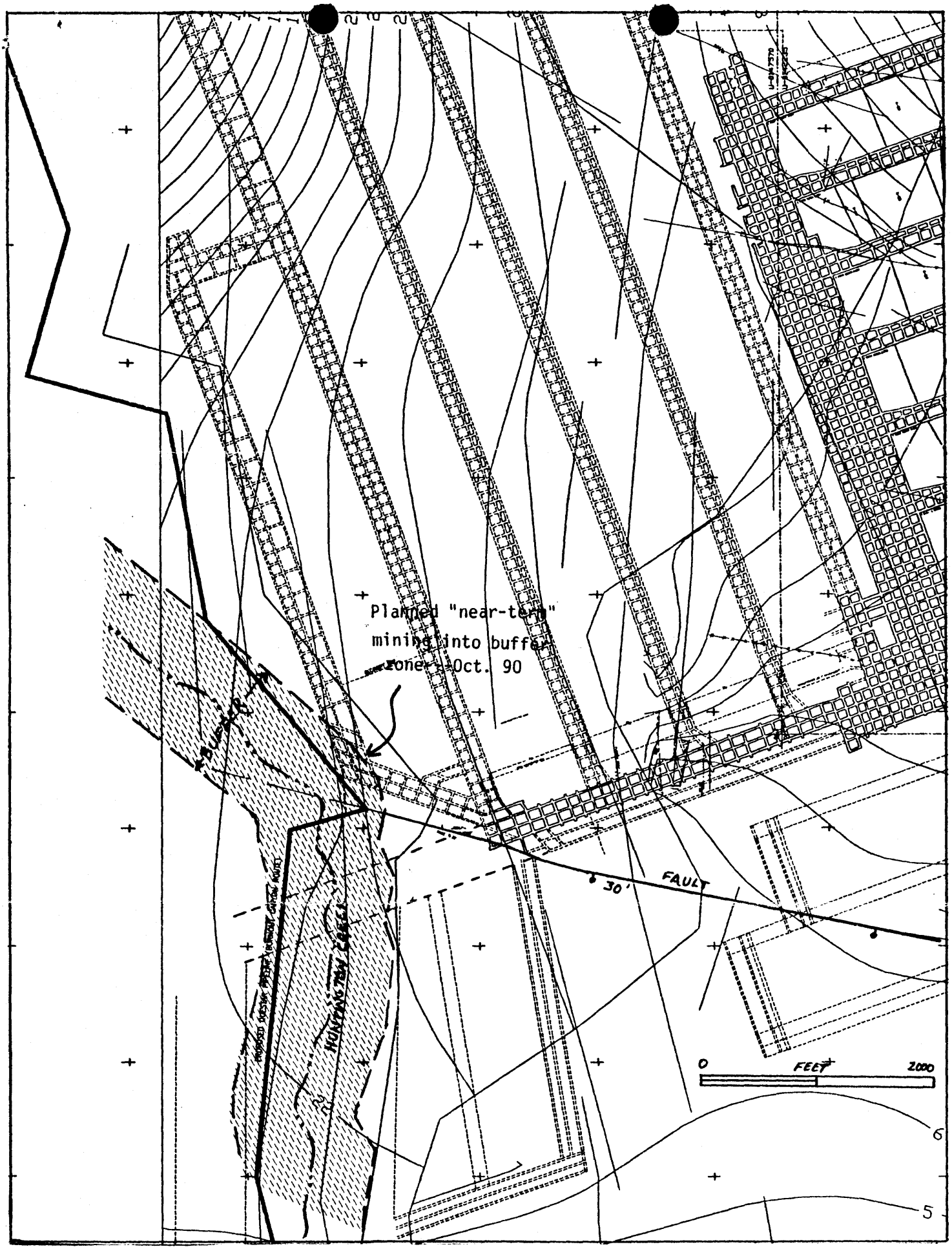

Figure 1: Map showing revised mine plan. Mains development will reach buffer zone in Oct. 1990.

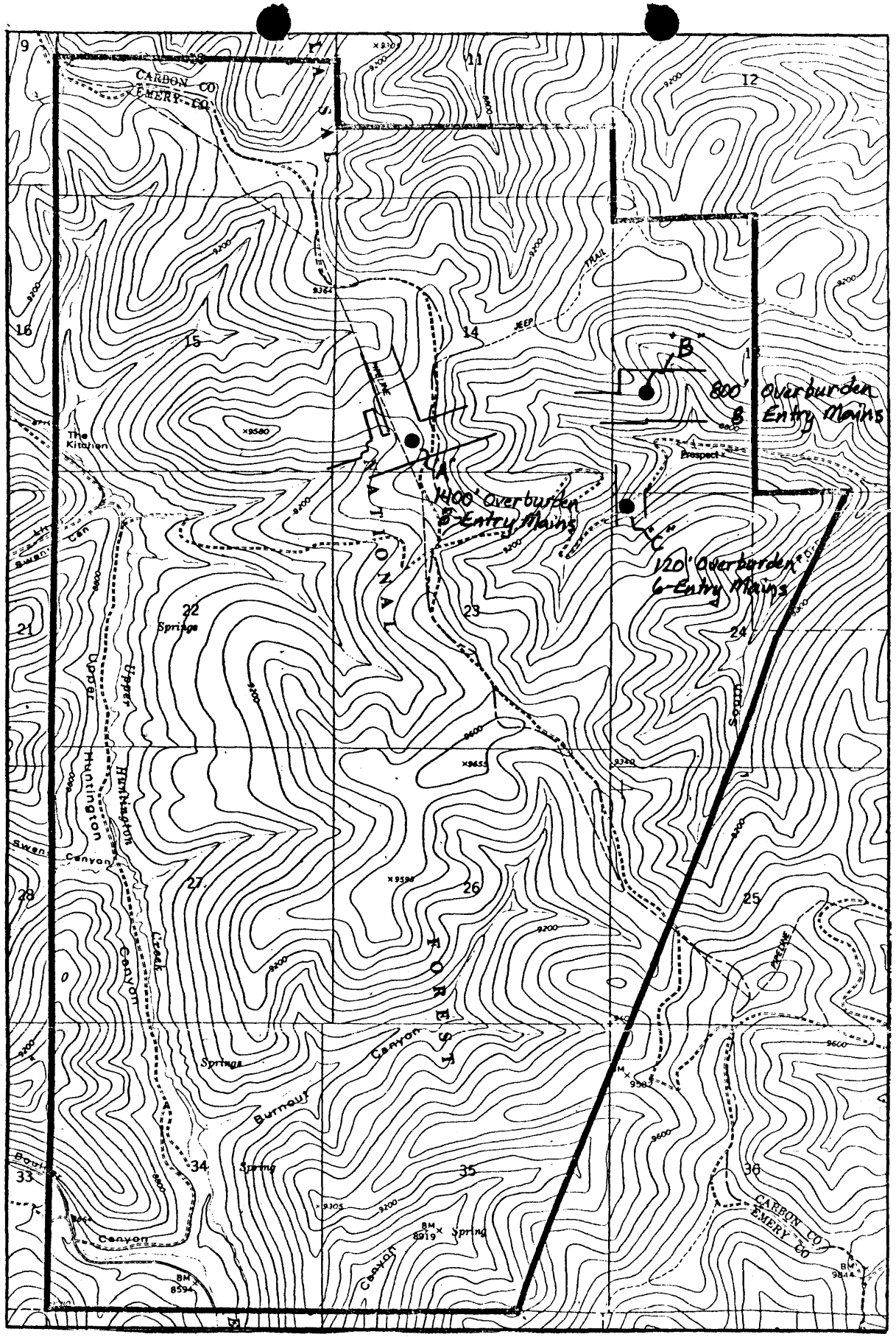

figure 2: Map of Skyline leasehold showing potential subsidence monitoring points over long-term main developement entries.