



0035

## United States Department of the Interior

SL-031286

## GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Office of the Area Mining Supervisor  
Conservation Division  
8426 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Mr. Thomas Bailey  
General Manager  
Plateau Mining Company  
P. O. Drawer PMC  
Wattis, Utah 84501



Dear Mr. Bailey:

In a proposal dated August 23, 1976, you requested our approval to construct a new fan et al. at the portals of the old Mud Canyon mine located on Federal coal lease SL-031286.

On November 10, 1976, an onsite inspection of the area was conducted by representatives of your company, U.S. Forest Service, and this office.

An environmental impact analysis has been completed and it has been determined that the proposed program will cause no significant impact on the environment.

Accordingly, your development plan is approved in its entirety subject to your agreeing to comply with stipulations of the Forest Service (copy attached) and the abandonment plan for your company's King mine.

Remember, it is the responsibility of the operator to see that his contractors or subcontractors know and understand these stipulations and the plan. Operations under this proposal are also subject to compliance with all operating regulations and lease terms.

Please notify this office when the work will begin. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

*Jackson W. Moffitt*  
Jackson W. Moffitt  
Area Mining Supervisor



Attachment

The following listed Forest Service recommendations are thought to be necessary in the development of your proposed plan, and thus must be adapted as stipulations in the approval.

- A. To stabilize the existing situation and prevent further soil erosion.
- (1) Areas where initial soil disturbance will occur, topsoil will be stockpiled and respread over the disturbed area.
  - (2) Areas where the soil is compacted will be ripped and tilled.
  - (3) All disturbed areas, i.e. highwall and road, will be revegetated with grasses, shrubs, of tree seedlings. The prescribed grass mix is as follows:

3 lbs Smooth brome  
3 lbs Timothy  
2 lbs Intermediate wheatgrass  
1 lb Kentucky bluegrass  
1 lb Ranger alfalfa  
1 lb Meadow foxtail

Tree species recommended are as follows:

2-0 Englemann spruce  
2-0 Intermountain Douglas fir

Planting at the distribution rate of 350 trees/acre or 9 x 9 spacing.

Fertilizing and mulching the disturbed areas may be necessary to insure a successful reestablishment of vegetation. Successful reestablishment of vegetation is defined as 50 percent ground cover.

- B. To mitigate the hazard of electrocution of perching birds, particularly raptors such as hawks and eagles, the following will also be adapted as an approval stipulation.
- (1) Structures will be built to conform with the specifications in the booklet "Suggestive Practices for Raptor Protection on Powerlines," Raptor Foundation, Inc., Department of Zoology, BYU, Provo, Utah 84601
  - (2) If certain power poles appear to become preferred perch poles by raptors even with the proposed modifications, the poles will be further modified to reduce the electrocution hazard.



A SUBSIDIARY OF UNITED NUCLEAR CORPORATION

Producers & Sellers of Utah Low Sulphur Coal

P. O. Box 539

Price, Utah 84501

Phone 637-2875

June 3, 1977

Mr. Jackson W. Moffitt  
Area Mining Supervisor  
8426 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

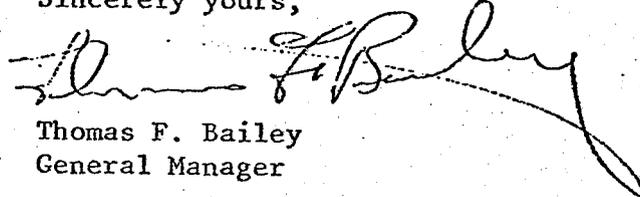
Dear Mr. Moffitt:

We have received your letter of June 2, 1977 advising us to proceed with our work on the portal area at Mudwater Canyon on Federal Coal Lease SL-031286.

Plateau Mining Company acknowledges receiving the stipulations of the Forest Service and agrees to comply with those stipulations.

I thank you for your consideration and help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas F. Bailey  
General Manager

TFB:aj



A SUBSIDIARY OF UNITED NUCLEAR CORPORATION

Producers & Sellers of Utah Low Sulphur Coal

P. O. Box 539

Price, Utah 84501

Phone 637-2875

November 19, 1976

Mr. Robert W. Cracknell  
Mining Engineer  
8426 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Dear Mr. Cracknell:

At our meeting on November 10, 1976, concerning Mudwater Canyon, the Forest Service requested an alternate plan for re-establishing ventilation in the Star Point No. 2 Third Bed (Wattis No. 2 Mine, Lion Coal Company) coal mine. Ventilation is necessary in this seam to develop federal leases held by Plateau Mining Company.

The only other feasible method would be to raise-bore a large diameter shaft. This shaft would have to be 16 ft. in diameter with a collar elevation of approximately 9,700 ft. and a coal seam elevation of 8,550 feet. This would be a 1,150 ft. shaft, costing over \$1,000 a foot to bore.

An access road would have to be constructed from the Forest Service road on Gentry Mountain to the shaft site and a three to four acre shaft boring site excavated. This site would be used for a fan and substation, after completion of the shaft.

The road from Morland Canyon to Gentry Mountain would have to remain open year round and a power line would have to be constructed from the Star Point No. 2 portal, Wattis, Utah to the fan site.

The impact on Forest Service lands would be far greater than our proposed installation in Mudwater Canyon, which was previously a fan site and cost in access of \$1,350,000 as compared to the \$235,000 being budgeted for the Mudwater Canyon site.

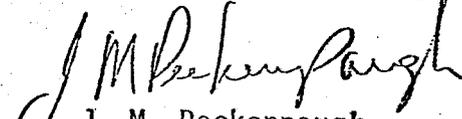
I hope this information along with all the other previously supplied information will be enough so that your work can be completed soon.

Mr. Robert Cracknell  
Mining Engineer  
November 19, 1976  
Page Two

This fan must be installed in the summer of 1977 or our entire development plans will have to stop until a fan site was agreed on and installed. This would cause a major setback in our coal production schedule.

Sincerely,

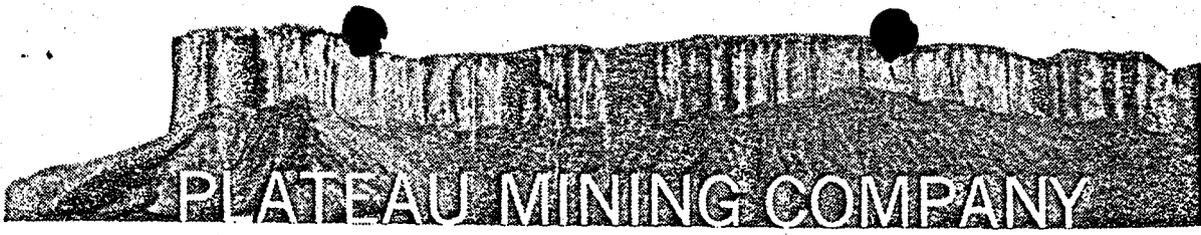
PLATEAU MINING COMPANY



J. M. Peckenpaugh  
Mine Engineer

JMP/kj

Enclosures



A SUBSIDIARY OF UNITED NUCLEAR CORPORATION

Producers & Sellers of Utah Low Sulphur Coal

P. O. Box 539

Price, Utah 84501

Phone 637-2875

September 10, 1976

Mr. Robert W. Cracknell  
Mining Engineer  
8426 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Dear Mr. Cracknell:

This letter is an amendment to my letter of August 23, 1976, requesting permission to develop the Mudwater Canyon area of the Manti-Lasal National Forest into a mine portal area as described in that request.

Further investigation has indicated that a 30 ft. cut will be needed to expose the coal outcrop in this area to bring the needed ventilation entries to the surface. Map No. 3 shows four cut and fill cross sections with an average area of 362.5 ft.<sup>2</sup>. The cut will be approximately 320 ft. long, exposing the outcrop to the No. 4 entry, Map No. 4, containing 116,000 ft.<sup>3</sup> of material. An additional 9,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> will be moved to develop the cut. Using an expansion factor of 25%, there will be 4,630 yd.<sup>3</sup> of fill material. Considering the number of trees and vegetation on the fill slope and a natural slope stability for fill material at 1.5 to 1, most or all of the fill material will not reach the natural drainage course. Therefore, we will not need to install an additional drainage system. This area will provide the area necessary for fan, substation and future mine material storage area.

The existing road into Mudwater Canyon will need maintenance and repairs but no other changes are planned for this road.

Very truly yours,

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

*J. M. Peckenpaugh*  
J. M. Peckenpaugh  
Mine Engineer

JMP/kj

Enclosures