

**UNC PLATEAU MINING**Subsidiary of United Nuclear Corporation  
A **UNC RESOURCES** CompanyP.O. Drawer PMC  
Price, Utah 84501

Telephone 801/637-2875

*Rt & file in  
Plateau Mining  
Star Point**JWS  
KMP  
MAN*

February 11, 1980

Murray T. Smith Chief  
Division of Inspection & Enforcement  
Office of Surface Mining  
Brooks Towers  
1020 15th Street  
Denver, COLORADO 80202**RECEIVED**

FEB 13 1980

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

RE: Your letter dated 02/04/80

Dear Mr. Smith:

After review of your letter and the accompanying on-site Inspection Report prepared by Mr. Ron Gregg we feel a need to clarify several points.

- ✓ 1. We view the statement that "No NPDES discharge permit was available at the site" as having a negative implication. It is true that we have no NPDES discharge permit; however, it is also true that we have no mine discharge, and therefore do not require one. We had, prior to the January 10, 1980 inspection, submitted an application for a NPDES discharge permit in an attempt to be prepared for the possibility of any future discharge. We feel that we have taken the responsible actions with respect to mine discharge.
2. "The State Inspectors indicated that the operator is in violation of an order of the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining, for their lack of compliance with drainage control regulations". This is not true. We were found to be in violation for failure to have a drainage control plan. The violation was continued by the Board to allow us time to have a consultant prepare a proposed plan. The Board's order was for the preparation and submission of the proposed plan. The proposed plan was submitted to the Board upon our receipt and preliminary review of the same.

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3. Four [4] Federal coal leases were listed. For future reference, SL031286, U7949 and U13097 are Federal coal leases and U22729 is a Utah State coal lease.
4. "In a drainage way adjacent to the present coal waste pile the operator indicated that a valley fill will be constructed of coal processing wastes". We are well aware of 30CFR 717.15[b] and have no intention of proceeding in any manner that violates this section of the regulations. This idea of a valley fill was proposed during "in-house" discussions on how we might acquire additional area to accommodate future refuse disposal needs.

The points brought forth in the "Summary" section were the results of inspector's conversations and not from actual observations by Mr. Gregg. The Company is aware of these items and is working to abate them.

As I stated in the beginning my purpose is to clarify not to criticize.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

UNC PLATEAU MINING



Floyd J. Tucker  
Executive Vice President/  
General Manager

FJT/jh

cc: Ron Daniels  
Ron Gregg