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E. STEELE McINTYRE

1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(801) 533-5771

CLEON B. FEIGHT
Director

October 15, 1980

Mr. Ben Grimes
Reclamation Specialist
Plateau Mining Company
P. O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Grimes:

I have reviewed the Outlines of Experimental Design for the Test Plot Studies. I will address my comments to each of the designs A-G. In general, however, a map of the mine with a marking on it for the location of each set of plots would be most helpful to all parties involved.

It also seems that fertilizer should perhaps be applied in the year following seeding. There is no time frame indication on fertilization in this plan.

- A) There do not appear to be any controls in this design. Controls are requisite in any research design. What surface manipulations will be done (e.g., contouring)? Will supplemental water be given? North and south aspects should be tested.
- B) This area is not familiar to me, nor do I recall the requirement by the Board to conduct tests for revegetation of these areas.
- C) Controls? Surface manipulations? Topsoiling?
- D) Seeding of the Topsoil Pile could be done with a single species. Fertilization should take place in a year from seeding. Mulch should be utilized and either crimped into or otherwise affixed to the surface.
- E) Seeding should all be done in the fall to allow for stratification and utilization of snow melt moisture. What does the seed mixture consist of? Weed control plots are not required. If Plateau wishes to test herbicides for use in revegetation, it may be more appropriate

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if done in conjunction with the other test plots as a treatment. It is suggested that design A incorporate both north and south facing slopes. Perhaps these two could be combined.

- F. This design is not viewed as requisite by the Board Order but should prove useful for final reclamation. Incorporation of several of these techniques is especially urged on the steep slopes.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the plan. I hope these comments are helpful to Plateau in the implementation of the study.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ann Wright". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

MARY ANN WRIGHT
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

MAW/btm