

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

A Subsidiary of Getty Mineral Resources Company

P. O. Drawer PMC

Price, Utah 84501

Telephone (801) 637-2875

July 8, 1981

Mr. Tom Portle
 Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
 1588 West North Temple
 Salt Lake City, UTAH 84116

RECEIVED

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MININGRoute 4 File ACT/007/006Copy to Sandy
Atwood Ann

RE: PHONE CONVERSATION 07/07/81 - 2:00 p.m.

Dear Tom,

The four areas of concern we discussed on your inspection tour of 06/25/81 have all been addressed and work completed.

1. Provide drainage away from burn around top soil pile adjacent to Sediment Pond #5.
2. Boundry delineation on area of top soil pile and Sediment Pond #5.
3. Berm around diesel tank adjacent to #1 Portal.
4. Rip rap in drainage area adjacent to conveyor line [in addition to rock we planted a number of shrubs to help secure soil and also enhance the deer crossing at the overland conveyor.

In keeping you up to date on power transmission lines as they pertain to raptors, Plateau Mining Company in cooperation with U.D.W.R. recently concluded a survey of cliff nesting raptors. I have enclosed a copy for your files, also the Federal Wildlife Service will inspect and suggest modification of any poles which may present a hazard.

This inspection is scheduled on 07/08/81 thru 07/10/81. We will provide you with copies of their recommendation as soon as they become available.

Sincerely,

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

Melvin A. Coonrod
 Melvin A. Coonrod
 Environmental Coordinator

Enclosure

cc: S. Rigby
 B. Grimes
 A.C. Pierce



DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

DOUGLAS F. DAY
Director

FEDERAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, Utah 84116/801-533-9333

July 1, 1981

Reply To SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
455 West Railroad Avenue, Box 840, Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-3310

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**PMC
FLOYD J. TUCKER**

Mr. Floyd Tucker, General Manager
Plateau Mining Company
P.O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

Attention: Mel Coonrod

Dear Floyd:

As per Plateau Mining Company's request the Division has inspected the electric transmission system associated with the mine plan area in an effort to determine if any potential threats exist for raptor electrocution. It is important to note that only poles that would likely be utilized by raptors need to be considered for protection. The support towers for the electric system are represented by a myriad of different designs; none of which are described in the literature that discusses protection of electric systems for raptors. Some of the tower designs are obviously safe for raptor use and others are obviously unsafe and pose a real threat for electrocution of raptors. Since guidelines specific for modification of the unsafe support towers on Plateau's mine plan area are not available, the Division has requested the aid of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Their raptor biologist will make an inspection of the electric system support towers during the week of July 6 through 10, 1981 and will provide written recommendations directly to Plateau Mining Company.

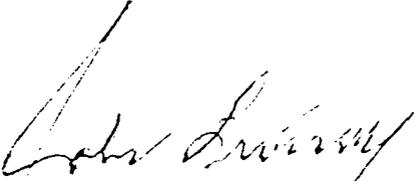
Enclosed is a report that resulted from the Division's survey for cliff nesting falcons and golden eagles on the mine plan area. Our raptor report represents only part of an assessment needed by Plateau Mining Company relative to avifauna that have high federal interest pursuant to 43 CFR, 3461.1 (n-1). I want to thank you for making the Company's contracted helicopter available for this survey. The data that resulted are of superior quality as compared to an on-the-ground survey that would have required the services of a consultant. I believe that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service earlier provided Plateau Mining Company with information relative to a raptor inventory at an air break-out site; that report will also serve as part of the needed assessment.

At this point in time Plateau Mining Company has need to finish an evaluation of the presence or non-presence of high-priority habitats for avifauna having high federal interest. This evaluation need only be made in the areas that are proximal to planned surface disturbed areas. If you will consult with Larry Dalton, the Division's Resource Analyst, he can fully explain what is needed and how Plateau can expedite the process.

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July 1, 1981
Mr. Floyd Tucker

Thank you for the Company's concern for the State's wildlife and your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Livesay".

John Livesay, Supervisor
Southeastern Region

JL:LBD:gp

cc: Darrell Nish
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Enclosure

SURVEY FOR CLIFF NESTING FALCONS AND GOLDEN EAGLES--
STAR POINT MINES

Charles Greenwood, Wildlife Biologist for Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, conducted a raptor survey for cliff nesting falcons and golden eagles on Plateau Mining Company's Star Point Mine's, mine plan area. Plateau Mining Company had need for such a survey proximal to planned surface disturbed areas but requested the inventory to encompass all drainages of the mine plan area that flow in an easterly direction.

METHODS

The raptor survey was conducted between 6:30 AM and 7:30 AM on June 23, 1981 from a "Jet Ranger 3" helicopter provided by Plateau Mining Company. The survey was a continuous route which began at the point of the ascarpment in section 15, Township 15 South, Range 8 East and proceeded north and west where it terminated in the left fork of Seely Canyon which lies in section 6 of the aforementioned Township. Evidences of nests for all raptors encountered was documented and a determination of whether they were active or not active during 1981 was made. Eya birds were counted in the active aeries.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The survey revealed one active golden eagle aerie and one prairie falcon aerie. The golden eagle aerie (T. 14 S., R. 8 E., Sec. 32 NW1/4) contains one eaglet. The prairie falcon aerie (T. 15 S., R. 8 E., Sec. 3 SW1/4) appeared to contain two downy young, but because of windy conditions a definite determination of Eya birds could not be made. One adult prairie falcon was observed perched immediately adjacent to the aerie site.