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United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

File ACT/007/006
Route ~~to~~
Copy to Joe, Ran
Mary Ann & Jim
Wayne and

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

MAY 1 1981

Mr. James W. Smith, Jr.
Coordinator of Mined Land Development
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Jim:

By letters of February 25 and April 13, 1981, Plateau Mining Company requested approval to extend mine workings in the Wattis (Top) Coal Seam of the Star Point No. 2 Mine (Federal Lease SL-031286). In response to Plateau's request, the Manti LaSal National Forest and the U.S. Geological Survey have recommended approval of the proposal as outlined in the April 13th letter. OSM is also ready to approve; however, I have been made aware that Plateau has received five violations issued by your office this past month.

In my letters of March 12 and October 2, 1980, I emphasized that on-the-ground compliance for surface facilities is a prerequisite to a permit extension. Two of the violations (dated April 3) centered around the fact that a conveyor line was built in 1980 without a permit and the fact that the conveyor line is a barrier to wildlife migration. The other three violations (issued April 16) were for constructing a leach field without a UDOGM or Utah State Health permit, not removing topsoil for the leach field, and not having runoff control for the area affected by the leach field. These violations indicate a disregard for proper permitting procedures.

Therefore, I am withholding my approval of Plateau's request until all the requirements of the five violations are satisfied.

If you have any questions in regard to this review, please contact John Nadolski of my staff at 303/837-3773.

Sincerely,

DONALD A. CRANE

cc: Moffitt, USGS, SLC
Christensen, USDA-FS, Price

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MAY 4 1981

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING