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ACT/007/006

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April 6, 1981

#0367361

REGISTERED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ben Grimes
Plateau Mining Company
P. O. Box 539
Price, Utah 84501

RE: Compliance

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Pursuant to the partial inspection of the Starpoint #1 and #2 mines conducted on March 26, 1981, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining finds the following issues in violation of the Act, Utah Code Annotated, 1953, and the performance standards of the permanent regulatory program.

The recently completed conveyor system was constructed prior to approval from the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and the Office of Surface Mining. Neither the Division nor the Office of Surface Mining have information under an alleged interim mining and reclamation plan or a federal 211 plan that is pending approval which addresses specifications, design criteria, implementation and environmental impacts. Plateau Mining Company is presently operating under an allegedly approved interim mining and reclamation plan.

Submittal for permanent compliance has been addressed in two (2) phases: (1) a three volume plan submitted to the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and the Office of Surface Mining, received by the Division March 27, 1980; and (2) a five volume plan submitted to representative agencies received by the Division February 20, 1981.

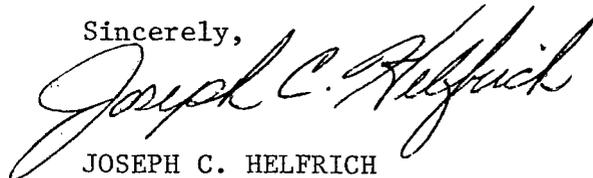
The conveyor system is referred in these two plans as an existing structure, approximate construction date of overland belt system and new road--October 1977. Approval for the new road was granted to Plateau Mining Company on August 8, 1979, and road construction began August 17, 1979. Was the conveyor already in place prior to road construction as indicated?

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The conveyor system is presently restricting wildlife movement. Measures must be taken to provide access across the conveyor system route. Mary Ann Wright, Division biologist, met with you on October 16, 1980, and again on November 7 to address compliance problems associated with the recently constructed conveyor system. Ms. Wright met with you on an informal consultation basis with the hopes that Division members could advise and suggest solutions to aid the operator in complying with environmental regulations, thus avoiding violations. Your response to Ms. Wright's consultation has gone unnoticed.

Your expeditious cooperation concerning these matters will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



JOSEPH C. HELFRICH
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

cc: Ed Thurmond, Getty Minerals
Floyd Tucker, Plateau
Steve Rigby, Plateau
Larry Damrau, OSM
Mary Ann Wright, DOGM

JCH/btm



Penalty for Private Use to Avoid Payment of Postage \$300

State of Utah
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

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TO

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PS Form 3811, Jan. 1976

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2. ARTICLE ADDRESSED TO: *Platinum Mining Company*
P.O. Box 539
Price, Utah 84301

3. ARTICLE DESCRIPTION:
Platinum Mining Company
P.O. Box 539
Price, Utah 84301

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PS Form 3800, Apr. 1976

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* GPO : 1979 O - 289-383