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PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

A Subsidiary of Getty Mining Company

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FILE NOV/007/006
FOLDER #7

November 1, 1983

RECEIVED
NOV 4 1983

Mr. David Lof
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Re: NOV 83-4-14-1

Dear David;

Our approved mine plan requires 1.5 ft. and 2.0 ft. mean diameter riprap for channel protection of Ditch No. 14, the subject of the above noted violation. Rock of this size is not available in the quantity required.

We have looked at various methods to reduce scouring in the channel and have found that lining the ditch with half-round corrugated pipe to be the best solution. We would therefore ask for a variance from the approved plan.

The use of pipe is justified for the following reasons:

- 1) By using pipe, the overall width for construction is less; 5 feet vs. 9 feet. This is significant because we can put pipe in with little additional disturbance to vegetation and topsoil. To construct according to the approved plan, we would have to widen the existing disturbed area by 4 feet to place rock.

The ditch is paralleled by an access road to Sediment Pond No. 6, which must be maintained for maintenance of the pond.

- 2) Pipe can be placed much faster than rock.
- 3) Riprap of adequate size and quantity is not available.
- 4) Using smaller rock and concreting the voids like we did for Ditch No. 9 is impractical for two reasons; time required would be too long and access by concrete trucks is next to impossible.
- 5) Pipe can be placed with less danger to the workers, e.g., men working in a severely restricted area handling concrete on potentially wet, slippery ground would be intolerable. The working area will be the roadway mentioned above, which is 10 feet wide.

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We have contracted Vaughn Hansen Associates, Consulting Engineers, to re-evaluate our entire surface water runoff plan. Part of their job was to recommend a ditch design for Ditch No. 14.

The ditch was designed to pass safely the peak runoff from a 25 year-24 hour precipitation event. UMC 813.43(a) states that "temporary diversions shall be constructed to pass safely the peak runoff from a precipitation event with a 2 year recurrence interval, or a larger event as specified by the Division." Based on separate phone conversations by myself and Marv Allen (Vaughn Hansen Associates) with Wayne Hedberg, the Division's policy is to require 25 year-24 hour event criteria for temporary diversions of natural drainages. Clearly, the use of a 25 year-24 hour event design exceeds greatly the requirements of the regulations and is consistent with Division policy.

The peak flow from a 25 year-24 hour event equals 62 cubic feet per second and requires a 54 inch diameter half-round culvert at a minimum slope of 5 percent grade.

The existing ditch meets and exceeds the 5 percent grade except for two short stretches. These short stretches can be regraded with little effort to meet the 5 percent requirement.

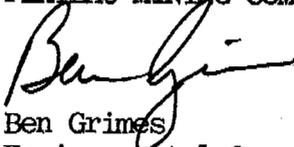
The half-round pipe will be installed with the inlet and outlet ends protected by rock aprons extending 20 feet from the pipe. Delivery time for the pipe is approximately 3 to 4 weeks.

Since we could receive adverse weather any day, we request that we be allowed to size the existing ditch with the required flow area, protect the areas where scouring occurred recently and install the half-round pipe next spring. We would protect the problem areas where scouring occurred by lining the area with rock or conveyor belting secured to the ditch bottom and sides.

Advise if you concur with these recommendations.

Sincerely,

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY



Ben Grimes
Environmental Coordinator

BG:sd

cc: Marv Allen, Vaughn Hansen Associates
Jeff Collins, Getty