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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
Dr. G. A. (Jim) Shirazi, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

December 9, 1983

Mr. Walter Mueller, Jr.
Vice President and General Manager
Plateau Mining Company
P.O. Drawer FMC
Price, Utah 84501

ATTENTION: Mr. Ben Grimes

RE: FMC Response to Special
MRP Stipulations and
Coarse Refuse Pile Expansion
Star Point Mines
ACT/007/006, Folders 2,3,4
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Mueller:

The Division has completed its review of Plateau Mining Company's (FMC) September 23, 1983 response to our August 16, 1983 letter, which outlined remaining deficiencies pertinent to the Special Stipulations attached to the overall Mining and Reclamation Plan approval.

The responses provided by FMC to the unresolved areas of concern in the Division's August 16, 1983 letter remain deficient in the following areas:

Special Stipulation # 6 and Refuse Pile Stipulation September 22, 1983

1. FMC should address the potential impact of coal spillage from the conveyor belt onto the test plots which will be in close proximity to the conveyor system.
2. FMC should indentify a probable location(s) for test plots necessary to provide equivalent information lost due to conveyor belt encroachment upon the existing plots.
3. FMC should provide the rationale for deviation from the June 2, 1982 letter on test plot design and specifically address the following:
 - a. Why were "controls" not implemented in each depth treatment to test the effect of the "no fertilizer" treatment?
 - b. Why were replications not implemented in the study, or shown on Map #1?

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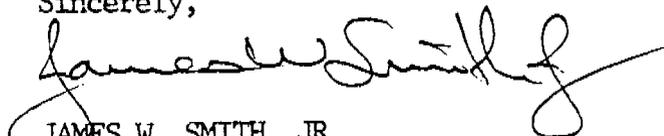
- c. Why were the depth treatments as described in the September 23, 1983 submission implemented in an uneven fashion on the horizontal plane?
4. FMC should provide the sampling methodology used to generate table #3.

Special Stipulation #10-(LK)

- A. The revised seed list for the Douglas Fir type includes several introduced species. Please provide justification for their use per the requirements for UMC 817.112. Also, the operator should consider hand plantings (containerized or bare root) to reestablish Douglas Fir, due to the low success rate of seeding this species.
- B. UMC 817.117 indicates the minimum standard for tree and shrub densities. The operator has failed to demonstrate that the proposed seeding plan will meet these minimum requirements. Also, what is the anticipated density of shrub clumps? Of the interspaces between clumps?

All other stipulations have been adequately addressed. Upon satisfaction of the above, the Division will issue its final clearance of all special stipulations. Should you have any questions, please call myself or D. Wayne Hedberg.

Sincerely,



JAMES W. SMITH, JR.
COORDINATOR OF MINED
LAND DEVELOPMENT

JWS:DWH:re

cc: Allen Klein, OSM
Walt Swain, OSM
Tom Portle, DOGM
Lynn Kunzler, DOGM
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM