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File ACT/007/006 #7

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

A Subsidiary of Getty Oil Company
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March 21, 1984

RECEIVED
MAR 23 1984
DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

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

RE: Sediment Pond No. 5

Dear Dave;

In confirmation of our phone conversation yesterday, I would like to notify the Division of a problem with one of our sedimentation ponds, Pond Number 5.

Late Monday afternoon (the 19th) during my regular inspection of all of our ponds, I noticed an apparent leak into the embankment. The leak is located approximately at the interface of the fill and the natural soil some 30 feet from the outlet pipes. The magnitude of the leak is not discernible, as the water level in the pond makes it hard to evaluate. There is apparent movement of water into the soil as seen by a flow of suspended sediment to a spot in the embankment.

There is no evidence of differential settlement and the Piezometer in the embankment is dry.

I made a thorough search of the outslope of the embankment and the canyon adjacent to the pond and cannot identify an exit point of seepage water. There are several wet spots in the canyon, but there have been snowdrifts in the area and they have been melting which causes wet spots.

The problem may have been created when we cleaned sediment from the pond. The dragline dug into the bentonite facing in a couple of spots and, thus, may have caused the problem.

We have taken action to seal off the leak by hand digging in the area, and filling it with bentonite and limestone dust. Our efforts appear to be successful, as the water level in the pond is rising.

Respectfully,

Ben Grimes
Environmental Coordinator

BG:sd

cc: Bob Lauman