

STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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

December 13, 1984

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
(P402 457 077)

Mr. Ben Grimes  
Plateau Mining Company  
P. O. Drawer PMC  
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Grimes:

RE: Permit Revision for Crossing Bear Valley Graben Structure,  
Plateau Mining Company, Star Point Mines, ACT/007/006, #3,  
Carbon County, Utah

Review of Plateau Mining Company's (PMC) permit revision request submitted to the Division September 26, 1984 was undertaken by the Division's technical staff. Several areas of concern have been identified and are enumerated in detail on the enclosed review document. The major concerns are:

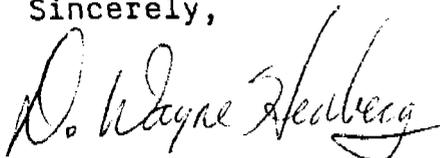
1. The effect of mining through the fault zone on the hydrologic regime.
2. The lack of plans for disposal of underground development waste.

To meeting PMC's mining schedule, PMC is requested to address the attached questions and concerns by January 15, 1985.

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Mr. Ben Grimes  
ACT/007/006  
December 13, 1984

If you have any questions, please call Tom Suchoski, Sue Linner or myself.

Sincerely,



D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permit Supervisor/  
Reclamation Hydrologist

TJS/btb  
Attachment  
cc: Allen Klein  
Walt Swain  
Ron Daniels  
Dave Darby  
Randy Harden  
Bart Kale  
Lynn Kunzler  
Sue Linner  
Tom Portle  
Tom Suchoski  
0020R-5 & 6

PERMIT REVISION FOR LEASE U-13097.

Plateau Mining Company  
Star Point Mines  
ACT/007/006, Carbon County, Utah

December 13, 1984

Geologic and Hydrologic Concerns

Investigation of the proposed access tunnels to Lease U-13097 has generated several questions of concern which must be considered and addressed before further proceedings can be implemented in determining the feasibility of the access tunnels. Information examined to date has established that impacts to the existing ground water conditions could occur.

The areas directly above and up gradient from the Bear Canyon Fault Zone are recharge areas for ground water. Movement of ground water is presumed to occur along the faults and fractures, acting as conduits to transmit ground water to other formations or strata which may be permeable and support springs.

If Plateau Mining Company (PMC) implements their current plans to construct access tunnels across the Bear Canyon Fault Zone the company may encounter large volumes of water. As this water is pumped or drained from the mine, drawdown of the potentiometric surface and dewatering of the fault zone would occur in the area. Such dewatering could reduce or interrupt flow to springs and water users adjacent and down gradient from the crossing. More specifically, the recharge to springs and streamflow in the Gentry Hollow, McCadden Hollow and Little Bear Canyon areas could be affected. Under these circumstances, the Division can not approve PMC's tunneling plans to access Lease U-13097, until proof is provided of no significant impact or that potential impacts could be mitigated, if they did occur.

The Division, therefore, requests supporting evidence which will insure that the existing hydrologic conditions will not be affected to the extent that spring flow will not be reduced or interrupted and surface flows allocated to water users will be maintained (UMC 817.52[aj]). To this end, PMC must address the following questions:

UMC 783.15 Ground water Information

PMC must submit to the Division an accurate and adequate description of the groundwater hydrologic regime in the area of the Bear Canyon Graben Structure. The MRP addresses this in a very vague and general sense. It is the Division's opinion that the description provided is not adequate and does not address the concerns required by the regulations.

UMC 817.41 Hydrologic Balance

Large flows have been contacted along portions of the Bear Canyon Fault Zone in U. S. Fuel's Hiawatha Mine. Since mining stopped at the fault area (not known to be a major fault or stringer fault) the total volume that can be expected if the whole fault zone is mined through is not known. PMC must supply estimates on the rate and amount of water they expect to intercept during emplacement of the tunnels as well as the volumes of water that would be generated on an annual basis.

UMC 817.50 Underground Mine Discharges

Water encountered at the fault will most likely be discharged at the mine portals. If this is the case, PMC must supply plans to meet the concerns of UMC 817.50(b).

UMC 817.54 Water Rights and Replacement

PMC must demonstrate that emplacement of the tunnels will not have significant drawdown affects to the areal ground water levels such that springs and water rights owners in the surrounding area will not be adversely effected (UMC 817.54).

Engineering, Soils and Vegetation Concerns

UMC 817.71-.74 Disposal of Excess Spoil and Underground Development Waste

Disposal of underground development waste generated by access to Lease U-13097 has not been outlined in the proposal. PMC must indicate the amount and deposition of the development waste material generated by such access. If all or part of the waste material is to be disposed of in the underground workings, UMC 817.71(m) should be addressed in the proposal. If all or part of the waste is to be brought to surface, PMC shall delineate the disposal area and commit to the applicable conditions contained in Section UMC 817.71-.74. Any changes in size or location of excess spoil and waste storage areas shall be indicated in detail by PMC and shall address concerns of UMC 783.19-.21 and UMC 817.21-.25 and 817.111-.117.

PMC shall address these sections and provide adequate response prior to permit revision approval.