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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
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4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

July 19, 1984

Mr. Walter Mueller, Jr.
Vice-President
Plateau Mining Company
P. O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

Attention: Mr. Ben Grimes

Dear Mr. Mueller:

RE: Engineering Certification of Sediment Ponds 1, 3 and 5, Star Point Mines, ACT/007/006, #3 and #7, Carbon County, Utah

Pursuant to Plateau Mining Company's (PMC) July 13, 1984 letter and to the subsequent meeting held July 16, 1984 at the Division offices regarding the recent surveying results of sediment ponds 1, 3 and 5, the following response is provided to address PMC's previous (May 23, 1984) variance request to UMC 817.46(r):

Pond No. 1

After researching the files and the history of the permitting events leading up to the Division's August 16, 1983 approval to redesignate this pond as a treatment facility, it is our opinion that the subject pond does not need to demonstrate strict compliance with all of the design requirements of UMC 817.46. The structure has met, and is in compliance with the performance standards for treatment facilities.

Consequently, PMC will not be required to obtain an engineering certification for Pond No. 1, and a variance to the same (UMC 817.46[r]) is hereby granted.

Pond No. 3

The Division concurs with PMC's proposal to enlarge the pond and modify the decant pipe to the correct elevation. Enlargement will be accomplished by excavating in natural material; no additional embankment will be constructed. This will bring the impoundment into compliance with UMC 817.46.

A registered land surveyor must resurvey the impoundment after reconstruction to confirm proper approved design parameters.

Upon the Division's receipt of the confirming data, the request for variance to UMC 817.46(r) will be reconsidered and most likely can be approved at that time.

Pond No. 5

The Division concurs with PMC's proposal to bring this impoundment into compliance with the requirements of UMC 817.46. In response to PMC's request for a time frame estimate for technical review of the company's proposed July 23, 1984 resubmission to the Division's June 21, 1984 deficiency letter, the following response is provided:

Upon Division receipt of said information from PMC to address ponds 4, 5 and 6, it is estimated that from 7 to 10 days will be required to complete the review and prepare a response.

Consequently, it is the Division's recommendations that PMC proceed with the enlargement of pond 5, but postpone the implementation of the new decant structure until final review and approval of the device is complete.

Due to the fact that the impoundment is significantly undersized and that the time period for seasonal thunderstorms is upon us, it is suggested that the company prioritize pond reconstruction activities accordingly.

Should questions arise, please feel free to call me or D. Wayne Hedberg of the technical staff.

Best Regards,

Dianne R. Nielson

Dianne R. Nielson
Director

DRN/DWH:btb
cc: Allen Klein, OSM, Denver
Dave Maxwell, OSM, Denver
Robert Hagen, OSM, Albuquerque
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