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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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

May 23, 1984

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

RE: Variance Request From
Engineering Inspection of
Ponds #1, #3, & #5
Star Point Mines
ACT/007/006, #3, #4 and #7
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ben:

The Division has completed its initial review of Plateau Mining Company's April 4, 1984 letter which requests a variance to the requirements of UMC 817.46(r), for sediment ponds #1, #3 and #5 at the Star Point Mines. The specific requirement that ponds be inspected during construction by a professional engineer is the basis for the variance request.

Our apologies for not being able to process this request and provide a formal response sooner. After considering the justification provided in your letter and following a perusal of our files and the pertinent documents relative to these impoundments, it is the Division's opinion that the following information is still necessary to satisify this regulation and to justify your request for a variance to portions of UMC 817.46 (r):

The operator will need to have the subject sediment ponds surveyed by a registered land surveyor in order to determine, if the ponds were properly sized during construction (i.e., sediment storage, dead pool storage and total storage) and if the primary and emergency spillways are at their proper heights relative to each other and to the top of the sediment pond embankment. This information would have been checked and verified if the ponds had been field inspected by a qualified registered engineer during construction and/or certified after construction.

Upon receipt of this information, the Division should be able to complete its review of Plateau's request for a variance to UMC 817.46 (r). This information must be received by June 30, 1984. The Division is anxious to resolve this issue as expeditiously as possible also. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor/
Reclamation Hydrologist

DWH/btb
cc: Allen D. Klein, OSM, Denver
Robert Hagen, OSM, Albuquerque
R. Daniels, DOGM
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