

January 30, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement
FROM: Barton Kale, Mining Field Specialist *BOK*
RE: Comments on Plateau Mining Companies Response to NOV
N84-6-15-1, ACT/007/006, Folder #7, Carbon County, Utah

The following comments are made for the record in response to statements made by Plateau Mining Company in their response to NOV N84-6-15-1. These statements are contained in a letter to Mary Ann Wright, Assessment Officer, dated January 23, 1985.

Since only recently have I been involved with this mine (since October 1984), I am involved with only the latter developments in this issue.

In Paragraph 2, on Page 3, it states that Plateau Mining Company was very surprised to receive the violation in the mail. In reality, the total scope of the issue, including the great possibility of the issuance of the violation were discussed during the December 19, 1984 inspection.

In Paragraph 4 on Page 3, it states that there is concern that the Division would issue a violation on an issue that is 22 months old. The question that should be raised is why, after 22 months, did the operator not put in straw bales when requested (which could have saved a violation). It should be noted that although the issue may have been raised 22 months ago, the inspector involved was only associated for 3 months.

In Paragraph 2 on Page 4, Mr. Grimes contradicts himself in stating the soil salvage has no relevance as long as they adhere to the regulations. The regulations state that topsoil shall be protected and/or salvaged.

wj
cc: Joe Helfrich
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