

0025

file ACT/007/006 # 13
cc: Kathy Wayne
John

Norman H. Bangsger, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
William H. Geer, Division Director

Southeastern Region • 455 West Railroad Avenue • Price, UT 84501-2829 • 801-637-3310

June 5, 1986

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

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Ben:

Concerning Plateau's proposal to develop three core holes (36-18-1, 86-18-2, and 86-18-3) the Division has some concern. All three core holes lie within a high priority valued parturition area for big game animals. Note however, that Hole #3 could be accessed and drilled without any substantial impacts to the birthing process of big game. However, Hole #3 does have two eagle nests within 300 feet that could be active as long as July 15th of this year.

Concerning Holes #1 and #2, it is recommended that road construction and drilling activity not be initiated until after July 1st. However, such activity relative to Hole #3 can commence at any time, if raptor inventory determines that the two nests are not occupied by young eagles at this point in time. If either of the two nests are occupied, road building activity within 1/2 mile of the nest, and drilling activity should be precluded until July 15th.

Nest #C, although in full view of the drill site area, is at least 2,700 feet away and does not cause concern for the eagles' well being if they are utilizing this nest at this time.

It is also recommended that all roads developed for this project ultimately be permanently closed and reclaimed.

Thank you for an opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

John Livesay
John Livesay, Supervisor
Southeastern Region

JL/LBD/dd

cc: Kathy Mutz, DOGM
Darrell Nish
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service