



PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

A Subsidiary of Cyprus Coal Company
 P.O. Drawer PMC Price, Utah 84501
 Telephone (801) 637-2875

Mine file
 cc L. Beaton
 J. Helfrich

March 6, 1986

Mr. Ken May
 Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
 355 West North Temple
 3 Triad Center, Suite 350
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

*AC 1007/1006
 #2*

Dear Mr. May:

In conformance with your phone call of March 3, we offer the following explanation of actions taken and plans for the future regarding the drainage problems recently experienced at Plateau.

The bypass ditch culvert at the subsoil stockpile had been partially washed out creating an erosion gully underneath the pipe. The unseasonably warm weather over the past two weeks had melted an unusually wet snowpack very rapidly creating many drainage problems on the property. In February alone, we received 51 inches of snow, containing 3.33 inches of water. A large portion of this water has run off over the past two weeks, creating our problems.

Each year about the time temperatures warm up, we experience severe drainage problems, which take time to clear up. This year is no exception; the culvert problem is simply one of many problems that we have right now.

After the inspection by Tom Wright on Thursday the 27th, we took steps to plug off the leak under the inlet end of the above mentioned culvert. Cement was placed in the hole at the inlet end, which sealed off the leak and got the runoff flowing into the culvert. In addition, the downspout pipe which lies on the surface of the ground below the inlet end was secured to prevent it from collapsing into the erosion gully underneath the pipe, thus separating the pipe at a joint, creating additional problems.

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The culvert and downspout are in a remote location where access is difficult; right now access is impossible due to the wet ground condition. Any attempts to get equipment to the site to do permanent repairs would result in buried equipment and ruined vegetation on the subsoil stockpile. Until permanent repairs can be made, the culvert should remain functional.

Permanent repairs will consist of constructing a cut off wall at the inlet end of the culvert to prevent leakage underneath the culvert. Refer to the sketch attached to this letter for details. The erosion gully beneath the pipe will be filled in and the culvert reinstalled with erosion protection placed at the outlet end.

Permanent repairs will be made as soon as ground conditions allow equipment access to the area. This may be next week, next month, or anytime in the future, depending on the will of Mother Nature.

Concerning the other problem areas observed by Mr. Wright, we have a man dedicated to maintaining diversions and making repairs for the duration of the season. We will do our best to keep the property in compliance.

We sincerely appreciate the Division's willingness to work with us in this situation. We have been pushing for this type of cooperative relationship with the Division for years. We all realize that we are dealing with the "elements" out here, which create new problems almost daily. We realize we have improvements to make to our system to head off future problems. We have tried diligently over the past several years to improve ditches, culverts and the like, to make them more stable, but we still have a ways to go. We hope sincerely that our efforts will meet with the Division's wishes.

If you need further information, please don't hesitate to call.

Respectfully,

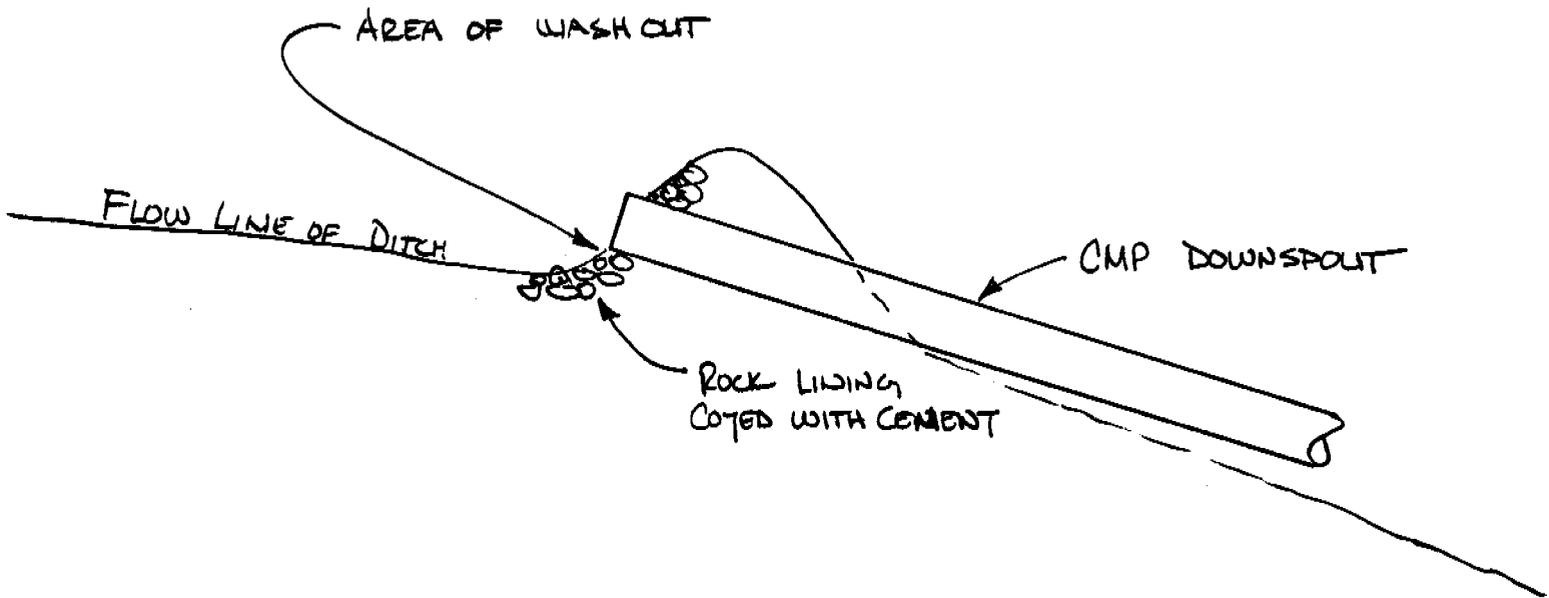


Ben Grimes
Environmental Coordinator

BG:sd

cc: Bob Lauman John Borla
 Bill Snyder Tom Wright-DOGM

PRE - REPAIRS VIEW



POST REPAIRS VIEW

