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CEP/007/006-87A
Amendmt to [-86(1)]

CYPRUS-PLATEAU MINING CORP.

An Affiliate of Cyprus Coal Company

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FILE COPY

November 20, 1987

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

RECEIVED
NOV 25 1987
DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Re: Exploration Permit 86-1
Emergency Drill Hole Amendment

Dear Mr. May:

This letter is to follow up a conversation between you and Bob Lauman of our office on October 27, 1987 and with John Whitehead the same day.

Bob indicated an emergency need to add another drill hole to the existing exploration permit 86-1. The following factors led to the need for a new drill hole:

1. Drill hole data from the latest holes 87-18-4, 87-18-5, and 87-18-7 indicated an urgent need to add another hole.

2. Data showed a mudstone splay in the northernmost longwall panel. The additional hole would define the extent of the splay.

3. The splay would seriously affect development mining to set up the longwall. Time potentially lost in defining the splay by development mining would be significant, resulting in idling the longwall with its 13 man crew and support personnel for approximately three months.

4. The additional hole would tell us whether we could mine panels 1 and 2.

5. Drilling had to be done immediately to avoid winter close out.

6. The mining schedule required the hole to be drilled immediately; next season would be too late.

The emergency hole 87-18-8 was drilled on private property as shown on the revised maps enclosed, in the vicinity of the previously permitted holes. The surface owner was contacted before drilling began. Our right-of-entry is detailed on page 2 of the original exploration permit application dated May 14, 1986.

Access to the drill site resulted in minimal surface disturbance (approximately 0.12 acres). The road and drill pad will be reclaimed with the other roads and sites next summer in conformance with the plan in the May 14, 1986 permit application.

The area of exploration was investigated for cultural sites during a study by Abajo Archeology.

A report of findings titled "Cultural Resource Inventory of Cyprus-Plateau Mining Company, Gentry Mountain Coal Properties, Emery and Carbon Counties, Utah, July 1987". The entire private property area above the Castle Gate sandstone cliff was searched as can be seen on Figure 2 of the referenced report. This study was conducted in conjunction with the new lands permit application; a copy of the report can be found in the Division offices. No cultural resources were found in the area of exploration.

Please amend the exploration permit to include this hole.

Respectfully yours,

Ben Grimes
Sr. Environmental Engineer

BG:sd

Enclosures

File: ENV 2-5-2-9
Chrono: BG 871108