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STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Division of
State History
(UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY)

MAX J. EVANS, DIRECTOR
300 RIO GRANDE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101-1182
TELEPHONE 801/533-5755

John J. Whitehead
Permit Supervisor
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

RE: Cultural Resource Survey for New Lands Application, Plateau Mining
Company, Star Point Mines, ACT/007/006, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

In Reply Please Refer To Case No. J343

Dear Mr. Whitehead:

The Utah Preservation office has received for consideration the above mentioned Cultural Resource Inventory of New Lands for Cyprus Plateau Mining Company Star Point project. After review by our staff, we have the following comments.

Two new project areas were inventoried by Abajo Archaeology (Area 1: T15S, R7E, Secs 11, 14, and Area 2: T15S, R8E Sec 8). We understand that there will be no surface activities in these parcels; however, Area 2 may be subject to ground subsidence after mining. Subsidence could possibly affect sub-surface cultural remains if any are present.

The reports indicate that no cultural resources were found in Area 2. However, one site, 42Em 2118, was located in Area 1. This site is an archaeological lithic scatter with a projectile point which indicates occupation possible within a broad time range from Archaic to Fremont periods (8,000 B.P. - 1200 A.D). The cultural resource contractor was unable to obtain sufficient information at the time of survey to make an evaluation of the eligibility of 42Em2118. It appears that there is potential for sub-surface cultural remains which retain integrity, and the extent of the site is yet to be determined. We concur with the cultural resource contractor that site 42Em2118, be tested in order to obtain information necessary to make a determination of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

Because there is no planned surface disturbance in Area 1, and Area 2, which has the potential for subsidence disturbance, has no cultural resources, we have the following comments. We concur with the determination of a conditional no adverse effect. The conditions include: testing of site 42Em2118 to collect information necessary for an eligibility determination and avoidance of site 42Em2118 if it is determined to be eligible. We are concerned that the site is on and around a dirt road. If any upgrade of this road occurs during the project, further mitigation of 42Em2118 may be necessary and this office should be notified.

A third area was indicated by Plateau Mining for new land acquisition. This area surrounds the present structures involved in the mining project and has been acquired for ease of legal description. No cultural resource inventory of the area has been done. However, if structures are constructed in this area, or other earth disturbing activities take place, a cultural resource inventory should take place to satisfy federal permit regulations.

The above is provided on request as outlined by 36 CFR 800 or Utah Code, Title 63-18-37. If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Lorraine Dobra or Charles Shepherd at (801) 533-7039.

Sincerely,



A. Kent Powell
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

LAD:jrc:J343/4458V