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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

December 9, 1987

Mr. Ben Grimes
Senior Environmental Engineer
Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation
P. O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Re: Approval of "Emergency" Drill Hole Amendment to Approved
Exploration Permit #86-1, Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation,
Starpoint Mines, CEP/007/006-87A, Carbon County, Utah

The Division has reviewed your letter dated November 20, 1987, which discusses the drilling of an additional emergency exploration hole, #87-18-8. The hole was drilled on private land in the same vicinity of the previously permitted holes which received Division approval on September 9, 1987. While the Division is empathetic to the circumstances requiring the emergency borehole, your followup letter received some 25 days after the fact is very untimely.

In the future, the operator is advised to acquire written approvals for all exploration and other mining-related actions before commencing the activity. Failure to do so will result in appropriate enforcement action. Your letter requesting approval to amend exploration permit CEP/007/006-86-1 is hereby approved. The Division will amend the September 9, 1987 approved exploration plan to include emergency borehole #87-18-8.

Please contact us at your convenience should you have questions concerning this approval.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg
Data Management Coordinator

djh

cc: M. Bailey K. May
 R. Hagen R. Smith
 P. Rutledge J. Whitehead
 L. Braxton P.F.O.

8992R/24

*Alternative approval
letter sent 12/9/87 ✓*

December 3, 1987

Mr. Ben Grimes
Senior Environmental Engineer
Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation
P. O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

DRAFT
** not sent, was revised.*

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Re: Approval of "Emergency" Drill Hole Amendment to Approved Exploration Permit #86-1, Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation, Starpoint Mines, CEP/007/006-87A, Carbon County, Utah

The Division has reviewed your letter dated November 20, 1987, which discusses the drilling of an additional emergency exploration hole, #87-18-8. The hole was drilled on private land in the same vicinity of the previously permitted holes which received Division approval on September 9, 1987. The October 27, 1987 conversations referenced in your letter have been discussed with Ken May and John Whitehead. On October 27, 1987, Mr. Lauman informed John Whitehead that the exploration hole had already been drilled. Mr. Whitehead advised Mr. Lauman to ~~immediately~~ submit the required notice of intention to explore describing the extenuating circumstances. Both Mr. May or Mr. Whitehead acknowledged discussing the exploration activity with Mr. Lauman, however neither recalls granting any approval of the action.

On November 12, 1987 Richard Smith performed an inspection at the Starpoint Mine. The operator was questioned concerning the permitting history of the new exploration borehole. Mr. Smith was informed that Division management had given Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation verbal approval for the additional exploration borehole. After consulting with Division management, Mr. Smith notified Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation on November 20, 1987 to submit a written notice of intention to explore, according to UMC 776.11, for the completed borehole by November 27, 1987. Your letter was received on November 25, 1987. The exploration amendment request is hereby approved. The Division will amend the September 9, 1987 approved exploration plan to include emergency borehole #87-18-8.

Page 2
Mr. Ben Grimes
CEP/007/006-87A
December 3, 1987

For the operator's future reference, the following clarification is provided concerning the Division's position on verbal approvals. Division policy and procedure discourages issuance of verbal approvals except in extremely unusual circumstances or emergency situations. When a verbal approval is given, standard practice requires formal Division written documentation of the extraordinary circumstances resulting in the approval. Copies are sent to all appropriate parties. Immediately following the incident, the operator is required to provide written notice of the specific details surrounding the occurrence and any corrective actions undertaken onsite.

Please contact us at your convenience should you have questions concerning this approval.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg
Data Management Coordinator

djh
cc: R. Hagen
P. Rutledge
K. May
L. Braxton
R. Smith
J. Whitehead
8992R/32-33



CYPRUS-PLATEAU MINING CORP.

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

CEP/007/006-87A
Amdurt. to -86(i)

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

Re: Exploration Permit 86-1
Emergency Drill Hole Amendment

RECEIVED
NOV 25 1987

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

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.

PLATEAU

November 20, 1987
Mr. Ken May, DOGM
Page Two

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



inspection report

Permit No. ACT/007/006
Inspection Date 11/12/87

Permittee/Operator Name PLATEAU MINING Co.
 Business Address P.O. DRAWER PMC
 City PRICE State UTAH Zip 84501
 Mine STAR POINT MINES Surface Underground Other
 County CARBON State UTAH
 Company Official(s) BEN GRIMES
 State Official(s) R.V. SMITH
 Time of inspection 10:30 a.m. p.m. to 11:45 a.m. p.m. Partial Complete
 Date of last inspection 10/27/87 Weather conditions PARTLY CLOUDY, 45°
 Acreage 5,225 Permitted 308.5 Disturbed Regraded Seeded 308.5 Bonded
 Enforcement Action None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

| | YES | NO | N/A | COMMENTS | | YES | NO | N/A | COMMENTS |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Permits | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 9. Protection of fish, wildlife, and related environmental values | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Signs and markers | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Slides and other damage | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Topsoil | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Contemporaneous reclamation | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Hydrologic balance | | | | | 12. Backfilling and grading | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| a Stream channel diversions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Revegetation | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b Diversions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 14. Subsidence control | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c Sediment ponds and impoundments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 15. Cessation of operations | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d Other sediment control measures | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 16. Roads | | | | |
| e Surface and groundwater monitoring | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | - Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f Effluent limitations | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | - Drainage controls | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Explosives | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | - Surfacing | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Development waste and spoil disposal | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | - Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Coal processing waste | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17. Other transportation facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Noncoal waste | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18. Support facilities and utility installations | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

WHITE - DOGM YELLOW - OSM PINK - PERMITTEE/OPERATOR GOLDENROD - NOV FILE

INSPECTION REPORT COMMENTS

Permit No. ACT/007/006

Inspection Date 11/12/87

Please number comments to correspond with topics on previous page.

4b. Diversions: Diversion ditch, located adjacent to inlet for 42" culvert at first switchback to Lion Deck Portal, has undergone routine preventative maintenance in the form of reshaping and relining with rip-rap.

4c. Sediment Ponds: Outlet culvert for Sed. Pond #2 has been raised to prevent siltation, rip-rap has been installed in the splash basin and the remainder of the constructed channel from the splash basin to the preexisting channel has been lined with rip-rap. All construction was performed according to the approved engineering design.

4d. Other Sediment Controls: TRASH RACK NORTH OF Sed. Pond #2 has been repaired.

1. Inspected current mining sequence map for New Lands Area. Seam splits will require a mining sequence change whereby the northernmost longwall panel will be eliminated. A permit amendment requesting this change will be forthcoming.

Copy of report mailed to Ben Grimes, PMC; Brian Smith, OSM

Copy of report given to Joe Helfrick, DOGM

Inspector's signature Richard V. Smith No. 19

WHITE-DOGM YELLOW-OSM PINK-PERMITTEE/OPERATOR GOLDENROD-NOV FILE



INSPECTION REPORT COMMENTS

Permit No. ACT/007/006

Inspection Date 11/12/87

Please number comments to correspond with topics on previous page.

1. (CONTINUED). INSPECTION OF THE CURRENT MINING SEQUENCE MAP ALSO REVEALED AN EXPLORATION BOREHOLE HAD BEEN RECENTLY COMPLETED WITHOUT PRIOR FILING, ACCORDING TO UMC 776.11, WITH THE DIVISION A WRITTEN NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXPLORE. THE OPERATOR CLAIMED THAT DIVISION MANAGEMENT HAD VERBALLY APPROVED THE EXPLORATION BOREHOLE. SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH DIVISION MANAGEMENT CONFIRMED THAT THE EXPLORATION BOREHOLE HAD NOT BEEN VERBALLY (OR OTHERWISE) APPROVED. PURSUANT TO DIVISION MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVE, THE OPERATOR WAS INFORMED BY TELEPHONE CONVERSATION (11/20/87) TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXPLORE, ACCORDING TO UMC 776.11, FOR THE COMPLETED BOREHOLE WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS (11/27/87) OR AN APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION WILL BE TAKEN.

Copy of report mailed to BEN GRIMES, PMC; BRIAN SMITH, OSM

Copy of report given to JOE HELFRICH, DOGM

Inspector's signature Richard V. Smith No. 19

WHITE - DOGM YELLOW - OSM PINK - PERMITTEE/OPERATOR GOLDENROD - NOV FILE