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**SEP 23 1991**

**DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING**

Moab District  
P. O. Box 970  
Moab, Utah 84532

3482  
(UTU-64263)  
(U-065)

SEP 19 1991

Mr. Richard Holbrook  
Senior Project Manager  
Office of Surface Mining  
1020 15th Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202

Re: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2) for Federal Coal  
Lease U-64263

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has reviewed the R2P2 submitted by Cyprus Plateau Mining Company (PMC) on September 9, 1991 for Federal coal lease UTU-64263. This correspondence provides our findings and recommendations regarding the R2P2.

Federal coal lease UTU-64263 was issued to Cyprus Western Coal Company on April 1, 1990 involving 1987.46 acres. During the leasing process, the area was referred to as the Castle Valley Ridge Tract. On July 10, 1991, the lease was modified by the addition of 50 acres to allow mining and prevent the bypass of Federal coal. The entire 2,037.46 acres is within the Manti-La Sal National Forest.

Underground development of coal on this lease is merely an extension of an existing operation and will not require construction of new surface facilities for access or coal processing. However, it is necessary to drive three rock slopes to the surface near the Little Park Stream to provide ventilation and escapeway portals. Development will involve longwall mining methods in one minable seam.

Deficiencies in the R2P2 were resolved directly with the company and it is now complete and technically accurate. The BLM has determined that the R2P2 is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of Federal coal.

The BLM is extremely concerned that failure to approve the permit revision involving the subject lease by October 1, 1991 will result in the bypass of the Federal coal on the 50 acre modification.

If you have any questions, please contact Gary Johnson in the Price Coal Office at (801) 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

**/S/ WILLIAM C. STRINGER**  
Assistant District Manager  
Mineral Resources

cc:

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