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*United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

Pam: ranch to job

Reply to: 2820

*Copy Pam, Jesse
Tom*

Date: June 18, 1992

RECEIVED

JUN 21 1992

**DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING**

Lowell Braxton
State of Utah Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

RE: Incidental Boundary Change - Safety Concerns, UTU-64263, Cyprus-Plateau
Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006, Folder #2, Carbon County,
Utah

Dear Lowell:

We reviewed the proposal for the subject incidental boundary change and
Cyprus-Plateau's June 4, 1992 response to the concerns listed in our May 29,
1992 letter.

As indicated in our letter, an environmental analysis will be required to serve
as the basis for any decision on proposed breakouts. In order to complete such
an analysis we will need a complete set of detailed drawings. In their June 4
letter, Cyprus-Plateau acknowledged that they would be required to submit a
detailed proposal prior to evaluation by the regulatory agencies.

We have reviewed the PHC and Cyprus-Plateau's responses to concerns discussed in
our May 29 letter. The PHC does not address the characteristics of surface
drainages (perennial or intermittent) in and adjacent to the tract, including
Nuck Woodward Creek, Little Park Creek, and Little Nuck Creek. The PHC will
need some revision to address the characteristics and flow of these drainages
and potential impacts.

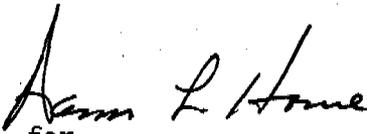
The PHC and conceptual mine plan show that Little Park Creek will be protected
from subsidence by not locating longwall panels within a buffer zone. No
technical information is presented to establish an adequate buffer zone width.
The proposed main would trend north, cross under the drainage, then turn west
along the north slope to potentially break-out in the canyon. If Little Park
Creek is perennial at the location of the crossing, technical information will
be required to substantiate that no subsidence in the buffer zone will occur.
In addition, Cyprus-Plateau will need to make a commitment that before
abandonment of the main, necessary measures in accordance with best available
technology, will be taken to ensure that the buffer zone will not be subsided
after abandonment.

We have no objection to approval for driving the 5-entry main system to the north into Federal Lease UTU-64263. Before we will consent to crossing under Little Park Creek and extending the mains to the west, Cyprus-Plateau must provide the information discussed above. In addition, Cyprus-Plateau must be aware that we have some concerns in regard to the breakouts and intend to work with them on possible alternatives and mitigation measures.

Specifically, we are concerned about potential impacts to wildlife and recreation. The breakouts would be visible from the Little Park trail. Noise associated with a fan could impact recreation and wildlife use along the trail and adjacent areas. An environmental analysis for the breakouts would need to evaluate alternative locations for the breakouts/fan and potential mitigations such as relocating the trail, screening the breakouts from view, and noise abatement. Other issues identified by the general public and Interdisciplinary team would need to be considered in the analysis.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Price, Utah.

Sincerely,



for
GEORGE A. MORRIS
Forest Supervisor

cc:
D-3
C.Reed

Ben Grimes
Cyprus Plateau Mining Corp.
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Price, Utah 84501

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