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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangertter
Governor

Dee C. Hansen
Executive Director

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

September 7, 1992

Mr. Gary Johnson, Supervisor
Price Coal Office
Bureau of Land Management
900 North 700 East
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Re: Exploration Program on Castle Valley Ridge Lease Tract, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, CEP/007/006-92B, Carbon County, Utah Exploration Folder

Enclosed please find the deficiencies relative to the above-noted exploration program. This exploration drilling has been determined to be outside the permit area, and therefore, the lead agency is the Bureau of Land Management. Please inform the Division when the responses have been completed, and the Division will review the complete exploration program at that time.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela Grubaugh-Littig".

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

Enclosure



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August 20, 1992

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

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Re: Exploration Drilling, August 7, 1992 Submittal, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006-92G, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Enclosed please find Division deficiencies relative to the above-noted exploration. As noted in an August 7, 1992 Division letter to you, more copies are needed for transmittal to other agencies. These other agencies may also have comments which will be forwarded to you as they are received.

Sincerely,

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

pgl

Enclosure

cc: Bill Malencik, PFO



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August 13, 1992

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Susan M. White, Reclamation Biologist *SMW*

RE: Breakout Exploration Plan, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006-92G, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation has proposed an exploration program to assess breakout locations in the proposed Castle Valley Ridge Lease area. The plan was received by the Division August 7, 1992.

ANALYSIS

The following deficiencies are noted:

- 1) Page 2 lists the applicant as Cyprus Plateau Coal Corporation. The Division is not aware of any such entity associated with Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, please explain.
- 2) Page 5, fourth paragraph, states "where required, the topsoil will be removed and stockpiled." Please delete "where required" from this sentence. All topsoil will be removed and stockpiled.
- 3) The following comments and/or changes are made on the Disturbed Area Seed Mixture in Table I:
 - a) R645-202-242.100 states that seeded species will be native to the area disturbed.
 - b) The seed mixture contains several species (i.e., Fourwing Saltbush, Green Ephedra, and Winterfat) which are typically

seeded on lower elevations than 9000 feet. Please comment on this and describe the vegetative community that currently exists at the proposed site.

- c) The Division agree that Salina Wildrye and Utah Sweetvetch should be included in the seed mixture. However, the applicant should be aware that these species are often not commercially available. Plans should be made now for special collection with a reputable seed company.
- c) The variety of Big Sagebrush must be specified. The Division recommends that "Hobble Creek" Big Sagebrush be specified. This is a variety of the subspecies vasseyana.

RECOMMENDATION

The exploration plan cannot be approved until the above-noted deficiencies are corrected.

jbe
007006.BEP



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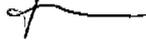
3 Triad Center, Suite 350

Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

801-538-5340

August 21, 1992

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor ✓

FROM: Thomas Munson, Senior Reclamation Hydrologist 

RE: Proposed Exploration to Determine Best Location for Castle Valley Ridge Breakout, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006-92G, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Synopsis

On August 7, 1992 the applicant submitted Amendment 92G for Division approval. This involves exploratory drilling in the Castle Valley Ridge lease tract (UTU-64263).

Analysis

A reference to the fact that these drill holes could be used as water monitoring holes does not address any specifics regarding construction or monitoring of a water monitoring hole. Previous exploration plans have addressed this issue in a similar generic manner and have not considered the need to use these holes for collection of baseline ground water data for the Castle Valley Ridge Permit. The Division feels the operator is not addressing this issue in this proposal since the Minor Exploration Rules do not require it. It is essential that the operator be made aware that any water monitoring program including wells be approved by the Division.

Recommendation

The operator be asked to submit a more detailed submittal addressing all the requirements related to permitting a water monitoring well, including approvals from other agencies (i.e., the State Division of Water Rights) prior to approval of any exploration program suggesting installation of a water monitoring well.

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August 19, 1992

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor ✓

FROM: Jess Kelley, Reclamation Engineer gk

RE: Proposed Exploration to Determine Best Location for Castle Valley Ridge Breakout, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation (CPMC), Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006-92G, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

On August 7, 1992, the applicant submitted Amendment 92G for Division approval. This amendment involves an exploratory drilling program, by means of which the applicant will determine the best location for a breakout in the proposed Castle Valley Ridge lease tract (UTU-64263).

ANALYSIS

The submittal contains the following deficiencies:

- 1) The fifth line of the property description of Lease UTU-64263, on page 3 of the submittal, is in error. It now reads "E1/2 SE1/4 E1/2 W1/2 SE1/4," which makes no sense.
- 2) The submittal contains no reclamation cost estimate or bonding provision for the disturbance that will be created by the proposed drilling program. R645-201-140 and R645-301-820 require that exploration activities within the permit area be bonded for reclamation just like any other mining activity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the applicant address the deficiencies listed above before this amendment can be approved.

jbe

cc: Ben Grimes, CPMC

CVEXP.MEM