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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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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.