



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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February 6, 1992

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben".

Dear Mr. Grimes:

Re: Ground-Water Characterization, Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mines, ACT/007/006, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

This letter is intended to outline the responsibility of the applicant in regards to the characterization of the hydrologic regime for current and future mining. We appreciated the meeting that you and Dr. Hansen had with the Division on January 31, 1992. At that meeting you discussed the outcome of your current in-mine ground-water exploration program. In addition to outlining your company's exploration program, you attempted to gain concurrence on future ground-water investigation as it relates to the Castle Valley Ridge (CVR) Lease Tract. At that meeting you proposed one drill hole northwest of the CVR lease, on the west side of the Pleasant Valley Fault, and asked if that would be adequate to characterize the hydrologic balance within the CVR lease tract.

The applicant is required to provide the Division with a Probable Hydrologic Consequences (PHC) Determination which explains to what extent the coal mining and reclamation operations are designed to prevent material damage outside the permit area and minimize disturbance to the hydrologic balance within the permit area. The proposed hole will provide data that are not presently available to a PHC determination. The PHC will be based upon an analysis of all of the available information that Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation has at its disposal, including hydrologic and geologic information in the currently mined area, previously mined-out areas, and information about the Huntington City wells. In planning the data collection in advance of writing a PHC, you should consider the ability of the data to withstand the scrutiny that frequently follows public notice, and be prepared to defend the data accordingly. If you believe that more drill holes, in addition to the hole proposed above, will enhance Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation's ability to defend the PHC data, you should discuss those proposed hole locations with the Division.

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ACT/007/006

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The purpose of the probable hydrologic consequence (PHC), prepared by the applicant, is to collect adequate data in order to understand the hydrologic system that will be affected by coal mining and reclamation. The Division cannot approve a permit until the necessary hydrologic and geologic information are available to the Division for the Cumulative Impact Area. When you have defined the quality and quantity of surface and ground water under seasonal (one year) conditions, a PHC document is submitted to the Division. The Division will review that information and assesses it in terms of the cumulative impact area, which includes other mining in the area that would affect the said hydrologic system and develops the Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment (CHIA).

I hope this aids in your understanding of the PHC and CHIA process and your selection of sites for drill hole locations.

Sincerely,



Lowell P. Braxton
Associate Director, Mining

jbe

cc: Pam Grubaugh-Littig
Tom Munson

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