

0035

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

Per route to file

RECEIVED

JUL 26 1993

Reply to: 2820

Date: July 22, 1993

**DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING**

ACT/007/006 #2

Mr. Lowell Braxton
State of Utah Department of 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, Federal Lease UTU-64263, ACT/007/006-93C and Hydrologic Monitoring Plan Modification, ACT/007/006-93D, Star Point Mine, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Braxton:

We have reviewed the Incidental Boundary Change (IBC) and the Hydrologic Monitoring Plan Modification. We have determined that Cyprus-Plateau has not addressed our comments on the permit application package for addition of Federal Coal Lease UTU-64256 that would be involved with the IBC (Reference George Morris's letters to the Division, dated May 24 and June 2, 1993). These comments are summarized as follows:

Vegetation Monitoring

Stipulations attached to the coal lease require monitoring of subsidence, hydrology, and vegetation of the lease area to determine the progressive and final effects of mining. The operator must commit to and include a plan for monitoring the distribution of vegetation communities over subsided areas and reporting results at 5-year intervals.

The list of species in each vegetation type needs to be refined.

Subsidence

There is no discussion in either the Permit Application Package or the IBC in regard to protection of Wild Cattle Hollow from subsidence and mitigation of impacts to springs if flow is altered.

The Permit Application Package nor the IBC show subsidence monitoring points for monitoring subsidence in Federal Coal Lease UTU-64263.

Hydrology

Springs 438 and 486 need to be added to the monitoring program.

Monitoring of macroinvertebrate populations in Gentry Hollow, Wild Cattle Hollow, and Tie Fork Creeks needs to be resumed on a bi-annual basis (Spring and Fall) until it is determined that subsidence and related impacts are substantially complete.

We will not consent to the IBC or modification to the hydrologic monitoring plan until the above comments have been adequately addressed. 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