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TO: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

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

RE: Midterm Review, Star Point Mine, Cyprus-Plateau Mining Corporation, ACT/007/006, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

A midterm review of documents and memo discussing the permit was conducted. The review was focused on the refuse pile and contemporaneous reclamation. The documents identified permit defects for both of these issues. The deficiencies are discussed below.

ANALYSIS

Refuse Pile

The permit application fails to demonstrate that reclamation of the refuse pile as required by the State Program in R645-300-133.710, can be accomplished. The permittee has established a test plot on the refuse pile (presumably to demonstrate reclaimability) but the intent of the 1982 test plot is unclear since it does not represent the worst case conditions which are steep, long slopes. The permit is deficient in that it fails to discuss how 1.5 : 1 slopes up to 200 feet long will be revegetated and meet the requirements of the Performance Standards, R645-301-350. Therefore, the permit must be revised to demonstrate that the Performance Standards can be met. The revised permit may include a discussion of the methods such as reducing or breaking slopes, temporary and permanent erosion control methods, and contemporaneous revegetation which may allow successful revegetation.

Contemporaneous Reclamation

R645-301-352 requires revegetation to occur as contemporaneously as practicable with mining operations. The permit is deficient in that it does not identify those area which may be available now or in the future for contemporaneous revegetation. The permit must be revised to discuss those areas available for reclamation such as the #1 mine area and sides of the refuse pile and provide a time schedule for reclamation.

FINDING

The Star Point Mine permit is deficient and must be revised to address reclamation of the refuse pile and contemporaneous reclamation as discussed above.