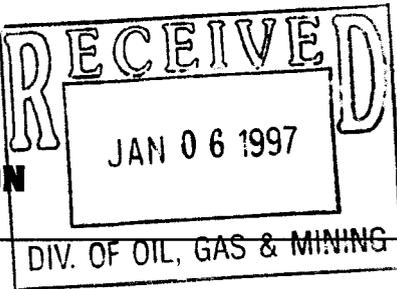


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**CYPRUS PLATEAU
MINING CORPORATION**
A Cyprus Amax Company



Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
Post Office Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-2875

January 3, 1997

Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, STE 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Re: Fourth Quarter 1996 Refuse Pile Certification

ACT/007/006 # 6

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

Enclosed is a copy of the fourth quarter 1996 certification for the refuse pile at CPMC's Star Point Mine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Johnny Pappas".

Johnny Pappas
Sr. Environmental Engineer

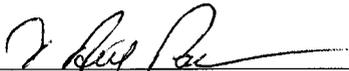
Enclosure

File: ENV 2-5-2-1-3-3
Chrono: JP970101.ltr

**CYPRUS PLATEAU MINING CORPORATION
QUARTERLY REFUSE PILE CERTIFICATION
FOURTH QUARTER, 1996**

I hereby certify that I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Utah. I certify that on December 30, 1996, I made an inspection of the coal processing refuse pile at Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation's Star Point Mine in Carbon County, Utah. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the refuse pile has been constructed and maintained as designed. The 1996 certification performed by RB&G Engineering Incorporated, dated July 3, 1996 also certifies the pile to be in conformance with requirements of the design criteria.

There are no apparent areas of instability, structural weakness, or other hazardous conditions. There is some small localized pooling of water which will be addressed through routine grading. Portions of the perimeter ditch are being relocated; construction is actively in progress. The inactive areas of the pile and the out slopes were snow covered.



T. Arthur Palm



12/30/1996
December 30, 1996