

United States Department of Agriculture	Forest Service	Manti-La Sal National Forest	599 West Price River Dr. Price, Utah 84501 Phone # (435) 637-2817 Fax # (435) 637-4940
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File Code: 2820-4

Date: December 8, 1997

Mr. Joe Helfrich
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Dear Joe:

We received notification from your office that Cyprus-Plateau will be sealing the western workings of the Star Point mine by December 31, 1997. We understand that Cyprus will abandon seven in-mine monitoring wells in the area to be sealed.

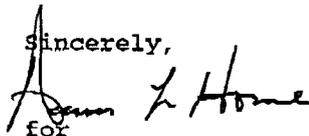
We request that Cyprus collect one more round of water level measurements from each well to be abandoned. From the permit amendment dated 10/24/97, it is understood that surface wells 92-10-1, 86-26-6 and 85-35-2-3 will be maintained. As post-mining hydrologic data will be needed for lease relinquishment, these wells must continue to be monitored at least twice yearly, until it can be determined that the hydrologic system is functioning as it was prior to mining.

The permit amendment also indicates that several springs will be dropped from the monitoring program. Springs 753 and 971 must be kept in the monitoring program because supplemental data is needed to resolve a dispute on whether these springs have been effected by mining.

Additionally, there are unresolved conflicts associated with the lease requirements in the area to be sealed. We believe these issues need to be resolved before this area is permanently sealed.

Please contact Liane Mattson of our office at (435) 637-2817 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



for
Janette S. Kaiser
Forest Supervisor

cc: Johnny Pappas, Cyprus-Plateau Mining
Dick Manus, Manager, Price Field Office, BLM