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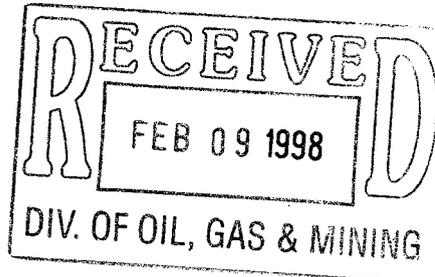


**CYPRUS PLATEAU  
MINING CORPORATION**  
A Cyprus Amax Company

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

February 6, 1998

Utah Coal Regulatory Program  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Ste 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801



Attn: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig

Re: 1997 Annual Pond Certification, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mines,  
ACT/007/006, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

Enclosed is a copy of the 1997 pond certification for CPMC's Star Point Mine.

Sincerely,

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

Johnny Pappas  
Sr. Environmental Engineer

File: ENV 2.5.2.1.3.2  
Chrono: JP980205.LTR

**Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation**

**1997 Sediment Pond Certification**

I hereby certify that I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Utah. I certify that I have made an inspection of Sediment Ponds 1 through 9, and three water impoundments, at Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation's Star Point Mine. All of the pond embankments appear to be stable and in good physical condition. There are no apparent structural weaknesses or other hazardous conditions. Pond number 9 has reached clean out level, and is actively being cleaned. I certify that I have reviewed the documentation pertaining to Attachment A, and that to the best of my knowledge the information shown thereon is accurate.

  
Date: 12/31/97

T. Arthur Palm



## Attachment A Sediment Ponds Storage Capacities

Pond	Date	Decant Elevation	Depth of Water in Feet From Decant Level	Elevation Of Water	Sediment Storage Capacity in A.F.	Sediment Storage Volume Used in %	Sediment Storage Volume Remaining in A.F.
1	12/29/97	8302.10	0.5	8301.6	0.36	20*	0.29
2	12/29/97	7718.75	2.25	7716.5	1.92	50*	0.96
3	12/29/97	8100.85	5.6	8095.25	1.77	10*	1.60
4	12/29/97	7313.00	☆	☆	0.44	20*	0.36
5	12/29/97	7393.00	DRY	DRY	2.42	30	1.69
6	12/29/97	7142.70	0.3	7142.40	0.76	5*	0.72
7	12/29/97	7206.00	5.17	7200.83	0.04	5*	0.38
8	12/29/97	7049.90	☆	☆	1.10	10*	0.99
9	12/29/97	7439.30	0.25	7439.05	2.02	60	0.81
Wash Plant East	12/29/97	7480.00	⊛	⊛	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wash Plant West	12/29/97	7483.00	⊛	⊛	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wash Plant Clear Water	12/29/97	7468.50	⊛	⊛	N/A	N/A	N/A

☆ Water level is above decant level. Auto-decant ports are plugged. Efforts have been and are being made to unplug.

\* Based on estimates and/or second or third quarter inspections. Above normal precipitation During 1997, hindered accurate sediment level reading due to ponds constantly containing water.

⊛ Preparation Plant was shut down in November 1997, thereby not requiring use of ponds thereafter. Ponds contained minimal amounts of water.