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**PLATEAU
MINING
CORPORATION**

MAR 08 2000

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

Willow Creek Mine
847 NW Hwy 191
Helper, Utah 84526
(435) 472-0475
Fax: (435) 472-4780

An affiliate of



March 6, 2000

Mining 007/006

*cc: Pam
Mary Ann
Daron*

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

**RE: Temporary Cessation, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006,
Carbon County, Utah**

Dear Ms. Littig:

In accordance with the Utah R645 Coal Rules, Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) is hereby notifying the Division that its Star Point Mine is entering into a state of temporary cessation that will extend beyond 30 days. The mine was idled on February 11, 2000. During the cessation period PMC will ventilate and pump the mine, recover underground equipment, ship remaining coal inventories, maintain environmental control measures, and perform environmental monitoring as prescribed by permit.

The Star Point Mine has 9084 acres within its permit area and the pre- and post- SMCRA horizontal and vertical extent of subsurface coal strata is 4760 acres. The underground mining footprint is broken down from the lower most seam to the upper seam as follows: Hiawatha seam - 611 acres, Middle seam - 1212 acres, and Wattis seam - 2937 acres.

If the property is not sold, then PMC will initiate reclamation activities later this year. The timing of initiating reclamation activities will be determined based upon the interest expressed by potential buyers of the property. Initial reclamation activity will focus on the retrieval and reclamation of the Corner Canyon and Mudwater Fans. After that, the mine portals will be sealed and backfilled.

With regard to items 1, 2, & 4 in your letter of February 23, 2000, we have or are in the process of removing all non coal waste and materials that are no longer needed at the mine. Recent heavy snows may delay meeting the April deadline, but work will continue on meeting this goal. The environmental control measures will continued to be maintained. Mr. Pappas has informed me that the sediment pond is functioning properly; however, some additional sediment still remains and will be addressed when conditions allow. Our intent is to continue to keep the property within compliance of all DOGM regulations.

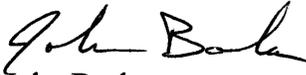
PMC has contacted the Carbon County Commission regarding County Road 290. As outlined in the attached letter to Carbon County, we have not and do not intent to close the road. Rather we are monitoring the use of the road to minimize the exposure to the risks posed by an idle mine property and to protect our assets.

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As soon as it is decided definitively that permanent cessation and final reclamation activities are imminent, PMC will notify the Division accordingly.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, Andy Schissler (Mgr. Technical Services) or Johnny Pappas. We look forward to continuing the excellent working relationship with DOGM as well as all other regulating agencies.

Sincerely,



John Borla
General Manager

Attachment

John Borla
Mine Manager
Plateau Mining Corporation
847 NW HWY 191
Helper, Utah 84526

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Plateau Mining Corporation

February 25, 2000

Carbon County Commission
120 East Main Street
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is to inform you of the secession of production at Plateau Mining Corporations Star Point mine and to ask your permission to use a security gate on the County road that passes through our mining property. The gate, currently in existence, is located West of the railroad bridge and just East of our lower office building and North of our refuse pile.

Plateau Mining Corporation idled the Star Point mine on February 11, 2000. Currently, we are in the process of recovering equipment from the underground facilities, performing some environmental work on the surface property and shipping the coal that remains in inventory. Our current work schedule for underground and surface activities is from 7:00 AM through 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday. During these hours, do to the number of employees on site, we will not close the gate on the County road. At all other hours we would like to close and lock the security gate to protect the public from the hazards that exist on the mine site. The greatest concern for public safety is someone entering the mine openings. During the time we have the gate closed and locked, we will have security personnel on the property located within 100 yards of the gate. Our Security personnel will open the gate for anyone having a legitimate need to enter the mining property or to pass through to Gentry Mountain. At this time, given the winter snow conditions, the county road beyond our mining property is impassable other than by snow machine or by foot. Therefore, it would be a rare occurrence that the public would have any need to venture beyond the gate.

Our need to protect the public from the hazards and to provide security for our assets will continue for an extended period. Once we have sealed the mine openings (expected to occur in the fall of 2000), we may feel secure in removing the gate. Following the sealing of the mine openings, we will begin surface reclamation work. Surface reclamation will take place over a period of several years during which time we will need varying levels of security and public safety protection.

I want to reiterate that the security gate is for the protection of the public and that the presence of an around the clock security guard will insure public access for any legitimate purpose.

Thank you for your consideration on this very important issue.

Sincerely,



John Borla
Mine Manager

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