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# WATER QUALITY MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

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November 3, 2010

TO: Internal File

THRU: James D. Smith, Permit Supervisor *DS 03 Nov 2010*

FROM: Kevin Lundmark, Environmental Scientist II *kw*

RE: 2010, 3rd Quarter Water Monitoring, Plateau Mining Corp. (PMC), Star Point Mine, C0070006, WQ10-3, Task ID #3637

The Star Point Mine is in reclamation. The mines have been closed and sealed since the spring of 2000. The disturbed areas around the portals have been regraded to AOC and seeded. Phase II Bond Release for 95.3 acres of land was approved January 2009. The reclamation water monitoring schedule for the Star Point Mine is provided in Table 731.211a in Chapter 7 of the MRP. The water quality analysis schedule is shown in Table 731.211b.

This report was prepared from monitoring data queried from the UDOGM database. The data that support this report were collected and submitted to the database by the Operator. The data were downloaded into file O:\007006.STP\Water Quality\Data\STP\_2010WQ.xls for this review.

The Operator has submitted an amendment to discontinue water monitoring at the Star Point Mine following completion of monitoring activities for third quarter 2010 (Task ID #3663). Upon approval of the amendment by the Division, water monitoring will no longer be performed by the Operator and water monitoring reports will no longer be prepared by the Division.

**1. Was data submitted for all of required sites?**

**Springs**      YES       NO

Spring 971 is required to be monitored monthly during May and July through September. If snow prevents access during May the operator monitors in June. The Operator reported "No Flow" at the spring on July 27, August 18 and September 30, 2010.

**Streams**      YES       NO

Surface Water sites ST-1 (North Fork of Right Fork Miller Creek) and 10-1 (Sage

Brush Canyon below permit boundary) are to be monitored quarterly. No flow was reported at site 10-1 and site ST-1 was reported with a discharge of 7 gallons per minute on September 27, 2010.

**Wells**            YES [ ]        NO [ ]

Not applicable. There are no active wells at the site.

**UPDES**           YES [ ]        NO [ ]

Not applicable. All UPDES discharge points have been reclaimed and the associated discharge monitoring points were inactivated by the DEQ Division of Water Quality in November 2004, therefore UPDES monitoring is no longer performed or reported to DEQ.

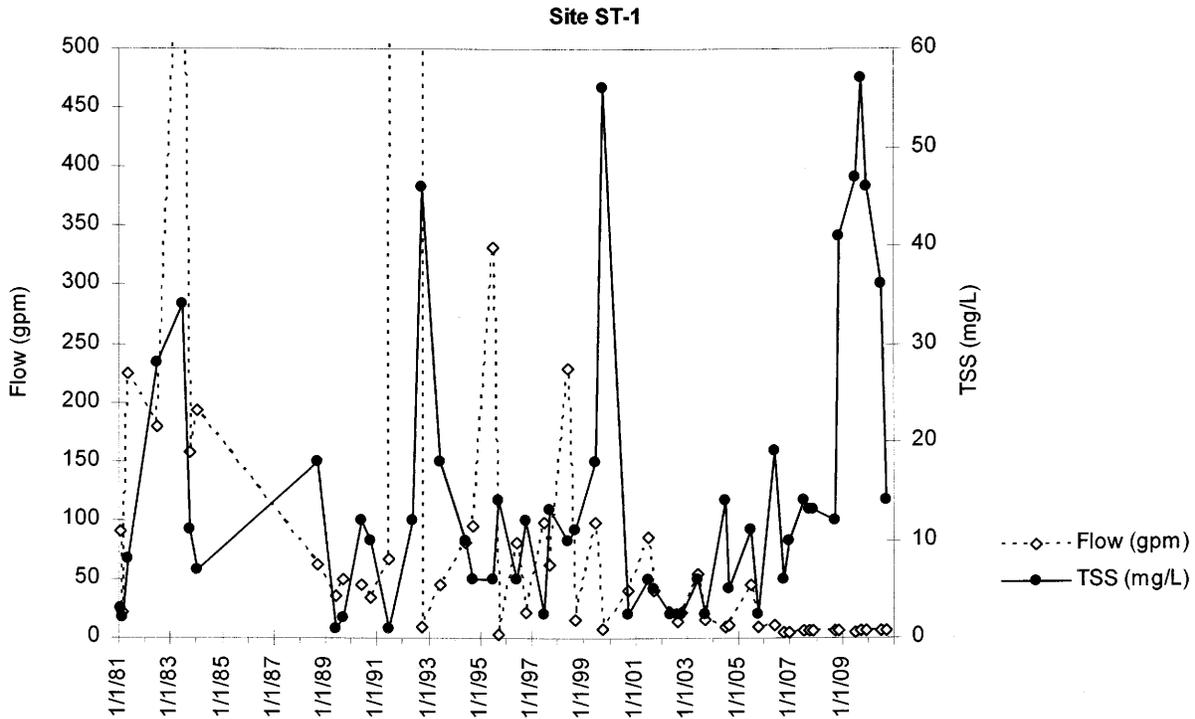
**2. Were all required parameters reported for each site?**

**Streams**           YES [X]        NO [ ]

**3. Were irregularities found in the data?**

**Streams**           YES [ ]        NO [X]

Stream monitoring site 10-1 is typically dry. The last reported flow at site 10-1 was during third quarter 2001. Total suspended solids (TSS) concentrations at site ST-1 were elevated between November 2008 and June 2010, reportedly due to either logging or grazing activities in the watershed. The TSS concentration at ST-1 during 3rd quarter 2010 (14 mg/L) suggests that the TSS concentration in North Fork Right Fork Miller Creek has returned to a more typical level (see graph below).



**4. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.**

Resampling for baseline water quality parameters is required during year five of the mining permit (the year preceding permit renewal). The current permit expires January 28, 2012; however, the Operator has submitted an amendment to discontinue water monitoring at the Star Point Mine. Resampling of baseline water data will therefore not be required.

**5. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?**

None

**6. Does the Mine Operator need to submit more information to fulfill this quarter's monitoring requirements?      Yes [ ]      No [X]**