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**KAISER  
COAL**

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Mine file

John Whitehead

ACT/007/007

Sunnyside #5

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 14 1986

October 8, 1986

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Lowell Braxton  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

RE: Sunnyside No. 5 PAP Hydrology Monitoring

Dear Lowell:

As you know, the weather in northern Utah this last month has been terrible with record-breaking cold temperatures and precipitation. This has seriously affected our baseline hydrology fieldwork in the Sunnyside No. 5 PAP permit area. To date we have completed surface water monitoring for the months of June, July, and August but have only completed the seep and spring monitoring in July and August. Our September fieldwork was delayed to the end of the month by the early snow and we were eventually driven from the field on October 2nd by rain for the preceding few days. We have not completed the third monitoring episode and because of weather we may not be able to do so until later this month.

This is a concern to us because we are attempting to complete our baseline hydrology data base for the Sunnyside No. 5 PAP. Although we understand the importance of collecting four episodes of hydrology data to assemble a complete data base for the permit application, we are conducting seep and spring monitoring in very steep and rugged terrain which, under favorable weather conditions, is difficult to traverse. The recent rain and snow has rendered vehicular access to much of the study area impossible and the normal hiking approaches to many of the monitoring sites are unsafe. We will continue to make every reasonable effort to complete our third monitoring episode later this month and will continue to schedule our fourth monitoring episode for the end of the month. This will result in the third and fourth monitoring episodes being separated by at most a week or two instead of the normal month.

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We are hesitant to delay the fourth episode until November because by then our chances of getting any work completed will likely be slim to none. We are adopting this common-sense strategy in the interest of personnel safety and will keep your office informed on our progress. JBR Consultants have had frequent contact with John Whitehead and Jim Fricke regarding this matter.

Please contact JBR Consultants in Salt Lake or me if you have any comments on the above.

Sincerely,



Martin P. Holmes  
Manager Permits and  
Regulatory Compliance

MPH/klk

cc: Brian Buck - JBR  
Bill Balaz