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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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January 22, 1990

Mr. Menco Copinga
North Emery Water Users Association
Elmo, Utah 84521

Dear Mr. Copinga:

Re: **Birch Springs**

Recently, Mr. William Malencik, Division Reclamation Specialist, inspected the Birch Springs area and noted that flow from Birch Springs is back on line; i.e., the inordinate volume of water discharging through the cracks in the fault contiguous to your underground collection system has now reverted to seeps; i.e., its former condition.

The cause of the Birch Springs situation is still unknown. After the complaint was filed, the Division checked the underground mine water system at the Bear Canyon Mine and the two springs at the reclaimed Trail Canyon Mine. There was no increase in flow at either place. The Division also looked at mine breakouts for water discharges, but there were none. The geology and faults of the area were analyzed (see attached map) but the information is insufficient to conclude if the problem was or was not mine-related. Nevertheless, the situation has returned to its former acceptable condition.

Please convey our appreciation to Jack Stoyanoff and others who have been very helpful and worked with the Division on this project. However, if Birch Springs flow is interrupted in the future, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Lowell P. Braxton

Lowell P. Braxton
Associate Director, Mining

PGL/djh
Enclosure
cc: B. Grimes, Plateau
D. Parker, Enviro. Health
P. Grubaugh-Littig, DOGM
AT45/146
bcc: D. Haddock, PFO
B. Malencik, PFO
T. Munson, DOGM

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