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DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES
DOUGLAS F. DAY
Director

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, Utah 84116/801-533-9333

Reply To **SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE**
455 West Railroad Avenue, Box 840, Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-3310

July 18, 1980

Mr. David Hess, Vice President & General Manager
Eureka Energy Company
215 Market Street, Room 258
San Francisco, California 94106

Attention: Bruce Benzler

Dear Mr. Hess:

On July 18, 1980 Charlie Greenwood Wildlife Biologist for Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and Jim Harris, Botanist for Bureau of Land Management, tentatively identified a plant that grows on the Dugout Canyon-Sage Point Mine plan area as Davidse Buckwheat (Eriogonum corymbosum davidsei). Positive identification cannot be made until the plant blooms, which will be in the next 10 to 15 days. This finding may be of significance since this variety was once proposed for federal listing as endangered in the June 16, 1976 Federal Register. It appears the plant is widespread in that local area, however, vegetative work for the Wildlife study is not intense enough to make such a determination for a plant species that has been proposed for federal listing as endangered.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's official June, 1980 list for plant species listed as threatened, endangered or proposed for such a status does not include the aforementioned plant. It would be adviseable due to an earlier status of this variety of Buckwheat to secure an official determination from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning its current status.

If the species is determined to be federally listed as threatened or endangered or proposed for such listing, Mr. Greenwood is available to assist in collection of a specimen for official taxonomic verification.

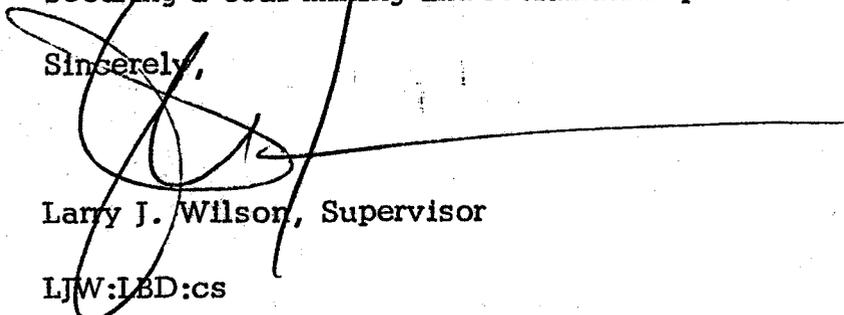
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I hope this information will prove useful to the company in the ultimate goal at securing a coal mining and reclamation permit.

Sincerely,



Larry J. Wilson, Supervisor

LJW:LBD:cs

cc: Darrell Nish
Leon Berggren
Clark Johnson
Mary Ann Wright ✓
Paul Anderson
Richard Ashcroft