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STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Wildlife Resources

*Oil Mine file  
cc L Penakton*

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor  
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director  
William H. Geer, Division Director

*007/011*

1596 West North Temple • Salt Lake City, UT 84116-3154 • 801-533-9333

March 25, 1988

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U TAH  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dr. Dianne R. Nielson, Director  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Attn: Susan Linner

Dear Dianne:

The Division has evaluated U.S. Fuel Company's February 2, 1988 permit application amendment for expansion of the coarse refuse pile at the Hiawatha complex. The following is offered for your consideration.

The expansion area will destroy at least 1.5 acres of sagebrush, which is ranked as being of critical value to wintering deer. The habitat type and acreage to be lost is not identified relative to the access road that will be developed. The roadway will lie within critical valued deer winter range. Additionally, the top soil storage area to be developed will cause a loss of another 0.5 acres of critical valued deer winter range.

Mitigation for these losses is necessary. The much larger long range refuse storage site that is currently being planned will also destroy deer winter range. It is recommended that DOGM officials along with DWR and the company meet to design an effective mitigation project. Such a project should address the current expansion of the refuse pile, as well as the long range refuse site.

Thank you for an opportunity to review the MRP and provide comment.

Sincerely,

*William H. Geer*  
William H. Geer  
Director