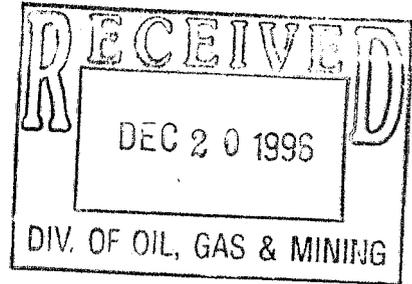




United States Department of the Interior  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

UTAH FIELD OFFICE  
LINCOLN PLAZA  
145 EAST 1300 SOUTH, SUITE 404  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84115



In Reply Refer To  
(CO/KS/NE/UT)

December 18, 1996

James W. Carter, Director  
Utah Coal Regulatory Program  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

RE: ACT/007/011-961, Hiawatha Mine, Carbon County, Utah

#2 Copy of and  
system and  
Paul Baker  
act P. Baker

Dear Mr. Carter:

We have received your letter of November 22, 1996 on the permit renewal application for the Hiawatha Mine. On November 22, 1994 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) wrote to Paul Baker concerning a dead raptor that was found at the Hiawatha Mine. Robert Benton of the Service could not positively identify the raptor, but believed it was a red-tail hawk. The cause of death was unknown. It was observed that some of the distribution lines in the mine were of a configuration that could cause raptor electrocution. The Service recommended that all distribution lines and transformer structures be made raptor-proof if the mine is reactivated.

Paul Baker was contacted by phone on December 12, 1996. He stated that the mine is still inactive and that the distribution lines have not been equipped with raptor protectors. The Service reiterates that if the mine is reactivated, that appropriate measures be taken to reduce losses of any raptors on the distribution lines and transformer structures.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Hiawatha Mine permit renewal application.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Williams  
Assistant Field Supervisor