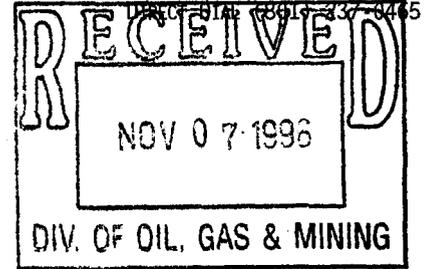


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LAW OFFICES OF
VAN COTT, BAGLEY, CORNWALL & McCARTHY
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
SUITE 1600
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84144
TELEPHONE (801) 532-3333
FACSIMILE (801) 534-0058
TELEX 453149

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO
POST OFFICE BOX 45340
84145-0450

DENISE A. DRAGOO



November 5, 1996

James Carter, Director
Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84145

RE: *REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO ABATE NOV 96-46-2-1, UNITED STATES FUEL COMPANY--HIAWATHA COMPLEX, ACT/007/011*

Dear Director Carter:

On behalf of United States Fuel Company ("U.S. Fuel"), we respectfully request an extension of time to abate NOV N96-46-2-1, Part 1 of 1, subparagraphs 1, 2(a) and 2(b) from Thursday, November 7, 1996, until Monday, December 11, 1996. U.S. Fuel has appealed this matter to both the Division and the Board of Oil, Gas & Mining. As discussed at the assessment conference on Friday, October 18, 1996, U.S. Fuel will submit a proposal to settle violations N96-46-1-1 and N96-46-2-1 by Monday, December 11, 1996. If the Division accepts this proposal, both of these enforcement matters will be resolved without a hearing before the Board. By way of settlement, U.S. Fuel is currently preparing a contemporaneous reclamation timetable and narrative describing the status of active mining operations at the Hiawatha Mine Complex. U.S. Fuel is also preparing a permit area map which will show an equipment storage area to address NOV N96-46-2-1. This information is being submitted as a proposed permit modification which will be submitted along with a settlement proposal by December 11, 1996.

Please contact me or Dan Guy at (801) 637-2422 as soon as possible to confirm whether or not an extension can be granted beyond November 7, 1996.

Very truly yours,



Denise A. Dragoo

DAD:jmc:102379
cc: Michael Watson
Gary Barker
Dan Guy
Mary Ann Wright
Susan White