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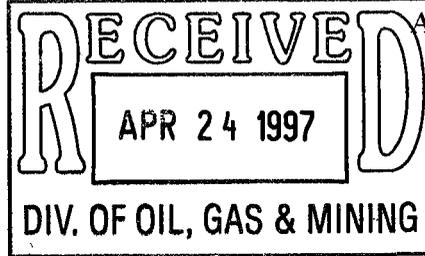
# UNITED STATES FUEL COMPANY

340 Hardscrabble Rd.  
Helper, Utah 84526



(801) 472-3372  
FAX (801) 472-3384

Utah Coal Regulatory Program  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801  
Attn: Steve Johnson



April 22, 1997

Dear Steve,

We were finally able to fly the property last Thursday. However, in my discussions with the aerial survey company, they indicated the film processing and contour work will require at least thirty days. After receiving the updated contours, U. S. Fuel will still need to create new surface facility maps and redo the reclamation design work as contemplated in Division Order 97A. Based on the above, it is now certain that United States Fuel Company cannot adequately address Division Order 97A by May 27. Therefore, I must request at least a thirty day extension to allow us sufficient time to respond to the Division Order. Although I am doubtful that every item within the Order can be completed within the thirty day extension, I hope we can reassess the deadline at that point based upon the work accomplished and whatever work remains, if any.

*ACT/903/011 #2  
Copy Baron, Joe,  
Steve,  
Anson*

Sincerely,

Michael P. Watson  
President