

2552 East 200 North
New Harmony, UT 84757
January 27, 2001

Dave Darby
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 W. North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

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C/007/013
TRUMING

Dear Mr. Darby:

We are asking that you deny the permit request of BLM for rights-of-way for a coal mining operation in the proposed Desolation Canyon Wilderness. This plan would undermine 900 acres of this wilderness inventory unit.

The BLM has not dealt with the issue of the herd of bighorn sheep found in this area. If the right-of-way for a coal mining operation are approved it will be to the possible annihilation of the herd. Bighorn sheep should be considered and an Environmental Impact Statement should be drafted which analyzes the impact of this proposal on the environment.

This area is classified in BLM documents as a class III visual resource. A visual change will occur if Lila Canyon and the surrounding area is converted from a wilderness to an industrial coal-mining zone.

We urge you to help protect this pristine area which we have canoed and value as an area for our children and grandchildren to inherit and enjoy its wild scenic beauty.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kuehl

LeRoy Kuehl

Barbara and LeRoy Kuehl

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING