

0117



Ivan Sidney, Sr.
CHAIRMAN

Todd Honyaoma, Sr.
VICE-CHAIRMAN

HOPI CULTURAL PRESERVATION OFFICE

March 27, 2006

Juanita
3/27/06

Mary Ann Wright, Associate Director, Mining
 State of Utah, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, P.O. Box 145801
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Dear Ms. Wright,

Thank you for your March 7, 2006, correspondence on behalf of the federal Office of Surface Mining, as a clarification to your January 9, 2006, correspondence, regarding the Lila Canyon Extension of the Horse Canyon Mine. As you know from our February 13, 2006, response to your January 9th correspondence, the Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Utah, and therefore we appreciate your continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

As you also know from our previous letter on this project, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites and Traditional Cultural Properties. We consider prehistoric archaeological sites to be the footprints of our ancestors and Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore we consider prehistoric sites 42EM2255, 42EM2256, and 42EM2517 to be Traditional Cultural Properties.

In our previous letter we stated that we understood that 42 acres of the 4,660 acre project area has been surveyed for cultural resources. Your March 7th correspondence describes a "phased identification and evaluation" that does not satisfy the federal Office of Surface Mining's obligations pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act to identify cultural resources that may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, so that a determination of effect for the project, and proposed mitigation of adverse effects, can be appropriately made and addressed. Furthermore, your March 7th correspondence does not respond to our request for a recommendation of determination as to whether sites 42EM2255 and 42EM2256, or any other prehistoric sites will be adversely affected by the this project.

MAR 27 2006
 MAR 27 2006
 3/27

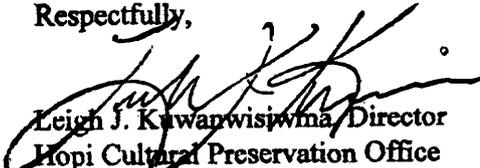
Mary Ann Wright
March 27, 2006
Page 2

Therefore, because all sites within the area of potential effect that may be eligible for listing on the National Register have not been identified, and because your correspondences do not indicate whether this project will have adverse effects on prehistoric properties significant to the Hopi Tribe, we continue to request further consultation on this project.

And therefore, we reiterate our request for a copy of the cultural resources survey report of the area of potential effect, and a recommendation for a finding by the State Historic Preservation Office as to whether this project will have adverse effects on National Register eligible sites 42EM2255, 42EM2256, and/or other unidentified National Register eligible sites.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Leigh J. Kawanwisjwina, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Utah State Historic Preservation Office