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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

March 4, 1992

Mr. Dan Guy, Manager
Mountain Coal Company
P.O. Box 1378
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Guy:

Re: Criteria for Highwalls, Mountain Coal Company, Gordon Creek #2, #7 and #8 Mine, ACT/007/016-DO-91A, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

This letter is clarification in regards to the highwall reclamation meeting held on February 25, 1992. The postmining land use will remain the same as the approved plan. Reclamation of the #8 Mine will completely eliminate the highwall.

Reclamation of the #2 Mine (a pre-existing highwall) may be reclaimed in accordance with R645-301-520 and will require a demonstration in writing to the Division that the volume of all reasonably available spoil is insufficient to completely backfill the reaffected or enlarged highwall. The highwall must be eliminated to the maximum extent technically practical in accordance with R645-301-553.521 through R645-301-553.524. If there is sufficient backfill, then the highwall must be completely eliminated.

Reclamation of the #7 Mine must also completely eliminate the highwall. However, if this is not physically possible, there must be a demonstration, using sound and accepted engineering practices, as to why the highwalls cannot be completely eliminated while demonstrating compliance with the requirements of the Utah Coal Regulatory Program. The cost of the complete elimination of the highwall cannot be considered a limiting factor.

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Mr. Dan Guy

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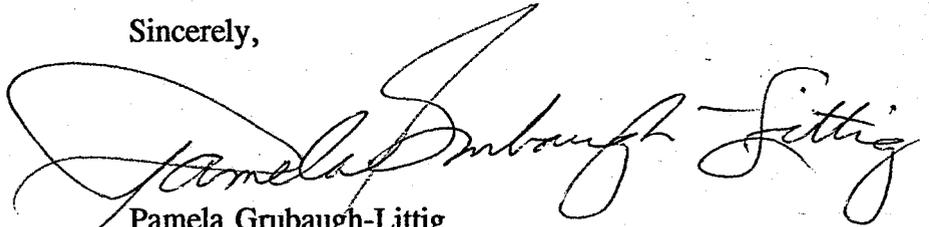
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As agreed upon in the meeting, an updated and revised reclamation plan for the Gordon Creek #2, #7, and #8 Mine will be submitted by April 30, 1992. This revised reclamation plan may amend the currently approved reclamation plan and address all aspects of the reclamation (soils, revegetation, etc). Changes must comply with the current R645 Rules and must be complete and adequate so that an approval by July 1992 can be achieved. Please note any changes, so that the Division review can be expedited.

It is the understanding of the Division that an approval by July 1992 would allow for reclamation to be conducted in the fall of 1992.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Pamela Grubaugh-Littig". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, sweeping loops.

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

jbe

cc: Lowell P. Braxton
Jesse Kelley
Henry Sauer

007016EL