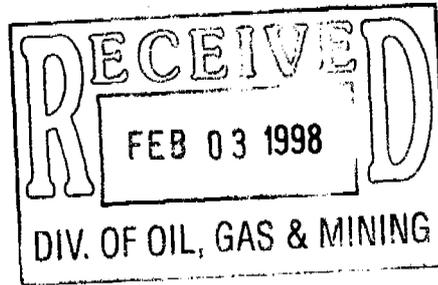


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Mountain Coal Company
West Elk Mine
Post Office Box 591
Somerset, Colorado 81434
Telephone 303 929-5015



January 28, 1998

*Mr. Donald A Hilden, PH.D., Chief
Permits and Compliance Section
Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
288 North 1460 West
P.O. Box 144870
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870*

Dear Mr. Hilden:

ACT/007/016#7

Enclosed please find the Discharge Monitoring Report for Mountain Coal Company's UPDES Permit Number UTG040004. This report covers the month of December 1997.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan W. Guy".

*Dan W. Guy for
Paige W. Beville, MCC*

Enclosures

DWG/db

*cc: Ms. Brenda Cazier, E.P.A.
Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, UDOGM
Paige B. Beville, Mountain Coal Co.
File*