



STATE OF UTAH  
 NATURAL RESOURCES  
 State Lands & Forestry

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Mine file  
 S. Seimer

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September 30, 1986

**DIVISION OF  
 OIL, GAS & MINING**

MEMORANDUM

TO: LOWELL BRAXTON, DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING

FROM: *JB* JOHN T. BLAKE, MINERAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST  
 STATE LANDS AND FORESTRY

SUBJECT: Comment on Soldier Canyon Mine Plan ACT/007/018

In my review of the Soldier Canyon Mine Plan, I note that the operator proposes a five foot seam thickness cutoff level. I believe that some of the other mines around the State mine seam thicknesses down to four feet and in estimating coal reserves, it is not uncommon to include 3 foot coal. It appears that a 5 foot cutoff level may be wasteful of coal resources.

① { Please require Sunnedco Coal Company to completely justify, from an economic perspective, their proposal to high grade the mining of coal in the Soldier Canyon Mine. If new or additional equipment or machinery can be economically employed to mine coal seams that are less than 5 feet thickness, then the operator should be required to do so in order to conserve the State's natural resources in this area. } 2

jg