

# SC<sup>3</sup> SOLDIER CREEK COAL CO.

Telephone (801) 637-6360

P.O. Box I  
Price, Utah 84501

October 24, 1991

RECEIVED

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DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Sharon Falvey  
Reclamation Hydrologist  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

RE: Delay and Completion of Sediment Pond Modifications, Soldier Creek Coal Company, Soldier Canyon Mine, ACT/007/018, Carbon County Utah

Dear Sharon:

As I stated in our telephone conversation on October 23, 1991, the modifications to the Soldier Canyon Mine sediment pond have not been completed. All modifications to the pond would have been completed, if not for the significant precipitation event that occurred on September 7, 1991. As a result of this event, standing water was present over the entire pond bottom and as it infiltrated the soils, extremely muddy conditions were present.

Several options for proceeding with the modifications were discussed with the contractor, such as waders, a small boat, and men working on or in the bucket of a track hoe. All these options were ruled out, either because of practicality or safety hazards subject to MSHA violations. Therefore, it was agreed upon that the work area should be allowed to dry or freeze, prior to commencement of the pond modifications.

During an inspection visit by Rick Summers (Senior Reclamation Hydrologist) on September 23, 1991, this issue of delaying the pond modifications until conditions allowed for the work to proceed in a safe manner, was discussed. It was my understanding that he was in agreement with us and the modifications should be done in a timely fashion, once conditions are conducive for work to begin.

After our discussion over the telephone, I met with the contractor and discussed the sediment pond issue. He stated that all pond

modifications should be completed by the end of November. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

SOLDIER CREEK COAL COMPANY



Johnny Pappas  
Environmental Coordinator

JP/sm