



Canyon Fuel Company, LLC
 Soldier / Dugout Canyon Mines
 P.O. Box 1029
 Wellington, Utah 84542
 435/637-6360 Fax: 435/637-0108

February 24, 1999

Coal Regulatory Program
 Attn.: Joe Helfrich
 Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
 P.O. Box 145801
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Re: Temporary Cessation of Coal Production
 Soldier Canyon Mine, ACT/007/018

Dear Mr. Helfrich:

AAA # 2

*Copy Mary Ann,
~~Phil~~, Joe, Baron*

Due to the deterioration of coal quality, the decision has been made to indefinitely idle all coal production at the Soldier Canyon Mine (SCM). Please be aware that this decision does not effect any surface acreage. The SCM surface facilities currently provide support to our Dugout Canyon Mine. These facilities will continue to be operated and maintained in accordance with the approved M&RP.

The underground mine workings remain ventilated and are routinely inspected by both SCM personnel and MSHA. All mine openings are also being managed in a manner consistent with active coal mines. However, since the SCM may remain idle for several years, declaring the mine to be inactive and temporarily sealing all openings is being considered. Should sealing of any of the mine openings be recommended, actual sealing would only proceed following MSHA approval (30 CFR 75.1711) and as allowed for within the approved M&RP.

Pursuant with R645-301-515.321, I have included five copies of the up-to-date mine progress maps to show the extent of the SCM underground mine workings. These maps are intended for direct incorporation into the approved M&RP.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Dave Spillman (435-636-2872) or Chris Hansen (435-448-2669).

Sincerely,
 SOLDIER / DUGOUT CANYON MINES

R. W. Olsen
 R. W. Olsen
 General Manager

enclosure

cc: Dick Pick, CFC
 Chris Hansen, Skyline
 Pete Hess, DOGM, Price Field Office ✓
 Dave Spillman
 Central Files

