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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangert
Governor
Dee C. Hansen
Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

June 12, 1991

Mr. Roger Skaggs
Blue Blaze Coal Company
P.O. Box 784
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Skaggs:

Re: Division of Wildlife Resources Review, Blue Blaze Coal Company, Blue Blaze Mine, PRO/007/020, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Enclosed please find a letter of concern from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. I am forwarding this letter to you for your information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Pamela Grubaugh-Littig'.

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

jbe
Enclosure
AT007020.001



State of Utah
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Norman H. Bangerter
 Governor
 Dee C. Hansen
 Executive Director
 Timothy H. Provan
 Division Director

1596 West North Temple
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-3195
 801-538-4700
 801-538-4709 Fax

orig mine file
at Provan's
P. Grubaugh-Littig
RECEIVED

JUN 10 1991

DIVISION OF
 OIL GAS & MINING

*Copy Susan, Tom,
 Hugh,*

June 7, 1991

Dr. Dianne R. Nielson, Director
 Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
 355 West North Temple
 3 Triad Center, Suite 350
 Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Attention: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig

Dear Dianne:

The Division of Wildlife Resources has reviewed the Blue Blaze mine plan for its technical completeness. At this time our primary concern is with their water needs. An important issue the coal company refuses to detail is the availability of water to operate the coal mine. Water is, of course, an integral part of determining project feasibility. Simply stating "water will be purchased prior to the need for water in the mining operation" is not sufficient when DWR owns over fifty percent of the available water and has no intention of selling or leasing this water. Our Gordon Creek Wildlife Management Area is important winter range for mule deer and elk. This water in the North Fork of Gordon Creek and Beaver Creek is an integral part of our area management plan. We suggest the mine submit plans detailing their water needs.

About a year ago, DWR was approached about our water. The person making the inquiry did not identify himself as a representative of the mine but we assume that was the purpose. At that time we informed that person we were not interested in selling or leasing our water.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If your personnel have any questions concerning this issue, please contact Ken Phippen, Southeastern Region's Habitat Manager (637-3310).

Sincerely,

Timothy H. Provan
 Timothy H. Provan Acting Director
 Director