

file ACT/1007/1020 # 2
Gary Arrington is finally back
with a little more "Sports Chat"
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amounting to \$100,000
and has granted some \$4 million
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Cessation orders issued to Horizon

Carbon County mining company failed to work within proper channels

On April 8, Federal and state officials issued separate cessation orders to Horizon Mining, LLC, a coal mine operating in Carbon County. Horizon Mining has illegally removed an estimated 32,000 tons of coal from federal land without first obtaining necessary federal mine approval and state permits. The Bureau of Land Management issued Horizon Mining a federal coal lease in September 1998. A plan to mine the coal within the lease area must then be approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and

the state must evaluate the surface effects of underground mining before issuing an environmental permit, a process that often takes up to one year.

"It's unfortunate that Horizon Mining has not acted responsibly to extend their permit to the area of federal coal," said Lowell Braxton, Director of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. "Horizon has been aware of the need for this permit for some time."

The Bureau of Land Management issued the cessation order for mining on a federal coal lease without the federal mine plan approval, while the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining issued the order for mining outside a permitted area. There is unmined private coal within the existing permit of Horizon Mine and

the dual federal and state orders are to stop the illegal mining of federal coal only.

"This action wasn't taken lightly, knowing it would impact mine workers," explained Dick Mannus, Field Manager in Price. "We became aware that the company has been mining in this area and a joint inspection was conducted with the state to determine the extent of the problem."

The federal mine plan approval process assures logical and maximum recovery of the coal resource while the state permit process guards against environmental harm. Although these processes were not followed, inspectors have determined there is no imminent threat to public health and safety. The mine is located about 14 miles due west of Helper, Utah.

Scouts from throughout the O-Rama. The event provided raise money for the scouting.

BLM open on wilder

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is hosting a series of "scoping" open houses to encourage public participation in a planning process which will create the establishment of new wild study areas (WSAs) on BLM land in Utah. Open houses will be held in Kanab, Escalante, and St. George next week with eight more to follow in various towns across the state in early May.

"While there will be several opportunities for public involvement throughout the planning process," explained Acting Utah State Director Linda Colville, "now is the time for the public to provide input for the public and concern back on issues and comment to the plan. Commenting wilderness character, the manageability of potential wilderness study areas, or special concerns on other resources within any of the 135 inventories that make up our plan would be especially useful."

County in



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Emery County Progress 4/20/99