



DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES  
DOUGLAS F. DAY  
Director  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, Utah 84116/801-533-9333

October 15, 1980

Reply To

OCT 23 1980  
SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE  
455 West Railroad Avenue, Box 840, Price, Utah 84501  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING (801) 637-3310

Mr. Cleon B. Feight, Director  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Mr. Feight:

The Division is concerned over development and planned operational activities at the Blazon No. 1 Coal Mine. The reach of Mud Creek that flows through the mine yard area (surface facilities are now being constructed) will continually be exposed to pollutants due to its proximity to the road and surface activities associated with the mine. This will be especially true during the winter season when snow removal will result in mud, industrial lubricants and coal particles being bladed off into the creek and ultimately reaching a salmonid fishery that begins about one mile downstream. The physical limitations of the canyon are not conducive to keeping pollutions out of an open stream channel. Experience with other local mines has shown this to be an uncontrollable problem when an open stream channel exists proximal to the mine yard.

When Mr. Joe Harvey first contacted our Division for wildlife input (May, 1979) he indicated that the stream reach in question would be placed underground within a culvert system. Such a procedure would have adequately protected the flow of water from industrial contaminants. He now indicates that "Government Regulations" have forced him to leave the stream channel open. I suspect that Mr. Harvey does not understand all of the interactions within the government for environmental protections.

Could you have the appropriate members of your staff look into the problem. The flow of water in the stream needs to be protected and our experience shows that the method planned at the Blazon No. 1 Mine is not satisfactory.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Larry J. Wilson, Supervisor  
Southeastern Region

LJW:LBD:gp

cc: Darrell Nish  
Jack Topham

JWH  
JJS

To Mary Ann  
for Review  
File ACT/007/021

JCS