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

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Southeastern Region  
455 West Railroad Avenue  
Price, Utah 84501-2829  
801-637-3310

*Copy PAM, Tom, Susan*

*File PPO/007/033 #2*

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DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

January 31, 1992

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Dear Pam:

After our conversation yesterday (1-30-92) concerning the Blue Blaze mine plan and the water rights situation, I decided to send you a copy of our original letter (June 7, 1991). The Division of Wildlife Resources continues to be concerned with the potential impact this mine proposal may have on our water right and all water sources available to wildlife.

If we need to discuss this issue further, please do not hesitate to contact me (637-3310).

Sincerely,

Kenneth W. Phippen  
Regional Habitat Manager

enclosure

cc: Ralph Miles, DWR  
Harold Weaver, DWR  
Mark Page, Division of Water Rights



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

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

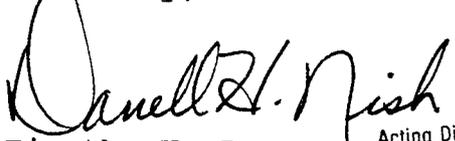
Dear Dianne:

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 Acting Director  
Director