

0021



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Ted Stewart
Executive Director

James W. Carter
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-5319 (TDD)

April 21, 1995

Ben Grimes
Project Manager
Blackhawk Site Exploration
Cyprus Western Coal Company
P.O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

Re: Approval of Drill Hole, Blackhawk Site Exploration, Cyprus
Western Coal Company, EXP/007/038-95B, Folder #3, Carbon
County, Utah

Dear Mr. Grimes:

The drill hole for core sampling amendment was reviewed and has met the requirements under exploration in the R645 regulations.

Amendment EXP/007/038-95B has been approved by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining Price Field Office. It will not be necessary to send extra copies to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining Salt Lake Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen J. Demczak".

Stephen J. Demczak
Reclamation Specialist III

sd

Enclosure

cc: P. Grubaugh-Littig
J. Helfrich

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT CHANGE

Title of Change: **Blackhawk Exploration Permit Modification**

Permit Number: **EXP/007/038**

Mine: **Blackhawk Exploration**

Permitter: **Cyprus Plateau Mining Corp.**

Describe. Include reason for change and timing required in treatment.

Add one exploration hole to obtain coal core for strength analyses.

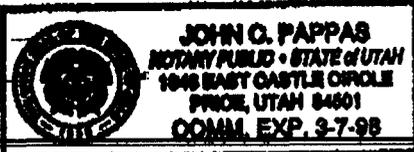
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? <u>0.06</u> acres <input type="checkbox"/> increase <input type="checkbox"/> decrease.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	2. Change in the size of the Disturbed Area? <u>0.06</u> acres <input type="checkbox"/> increase <input type="checkbox"/> decrease.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	3. Will permit change include operations outside the Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	4. Will permit change include operations in hydrologic basins other than currently approved?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	5. Does permit change result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. Does permit change require or include public notice publication?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	7. Permit change as a result of a Violation? Violation #
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	8. Permit change as a result of a Division Order? D.O.#
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	9. Permit change as a result of other laws or regulations? Explain:
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	10. Does permit change require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	11. Does the permit change affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	12. Does permit change require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	13. Could the permit change have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area? See explanation attached
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	14. Does permit change require or include soil removal, storage or placement?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	15. Does permit change require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	16. Does permit change require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	17. Does permit change require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	18. Does permit change require or include certified designs, maps, or calculations?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	19. Does permit change require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	20. Does permit change require or include subsidence control or monitoring?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided or revised for any change in the reclamation plan?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	22. Is permit change within 100 feet of a public road or perennial stream or 500 feet of an occupied dwelling?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	23. Is this permit change coal exploration activity <input type="checkbox"/> inside <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> outside of the permit area?

Attach 2 complete copies of proposed permit change as it would be incorporated into the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments, undertakings, and obligations, herein.

[Signature]
 Signed - Name - Position - Date
 SR. STAFF PROJ. ENGINEER

Notarized and sworn to before me on the 19th day of APRIL, 1995.
[Signature]
 My Commission Expires _____
 Notary Public
 State of _____
 County of _____



Received by Oil, Gas & Mining

ASSIGNED PERMIT CHANGE NUMBER

Explanation of Number 13

The drilling will be conducted within one-half mile of three Golden Eagle nests which are located on a cliff to the south of the drill site. A nesting activity survey will be conducted before the drilling commences to determine if eagles are nesting. If nesting activity is in progress, no drilling will be conducted until after the nesting season or unless the UDWR concurs that drilling can begin.

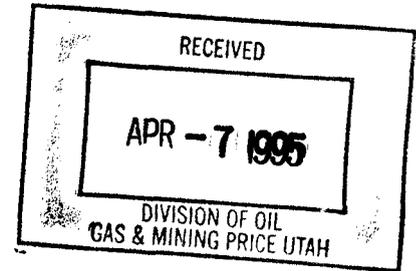
The nesting activity survey will be conducted under supervision of a representative from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources from the Price Office. The survey will be conducted by helicopter and a report will be forwarded to the Division within 24 hours of the survey.



Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
P.O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-2875

April 3, 1995

Mr. Steve Demczak
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
451 East 400 North
Price, Utah 84501



APPROVED

APR 07 1995

**DIV. OIL, GAS & MINING
PRICE, UTAH**

Dear Mr. Demczak,

RE: EXPLORATION PERMIT EXP/007/038 MODIFICATION

This submittal is to request a modification to the Exploration Permit EXP/007/038 which was approved on July 9, 1992, and extended on November 17, 1993.

Modification Plan

Scope of Plan

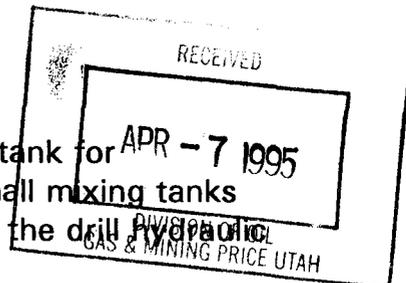
This modification consists of drilling one shallow (300') core hole to retrieve a coal sample for coal strength analysis. This information is vital in designing pillar sizes and longwall face width.

The location of the hole is shown on the amended Map No. 2 (Attachment 2 in the original 1992 plan) enclosed. The location is on fee land controlled by Cyprus.

Steps in Plan

The drill hole site is located near the mouth of a side canyon to Willow Creek as shown on the map. The site is an existing pad constructed many years ago for unknown reasons although, it has been used regularly by County residents for target practicing. The pad has no vegetation growing on it, and it is large enough to allow our drilling with no new disturbance. There is an existing road to the site considered to be an ancillary road. The drill site pad is surfaced with gravel and soil that has been disturbed for many years, there is no topsoil available for removal or reclamation. Total area needed for the drilling project is 0.06 acres. No stream or channel crossing will be required.

1. The hole will be drilled with a small trailer mounted drill rig. Equipment



necessary to support the drill rig consists of a small water tank for recirculation of drilling fluid, a pickup truck, a couple of small mixing tanks for drilling fluids, and a diesel powered generator to power the drill rig.

system. A small mud pit approximately 8'X10' by 4 feet deep may be required. The mud pit will be constructed by excavating the soil and using the soil to create a U-shaped berm on the downgradient side to prevent water from leaving the pit. The pit will be fenced if left unattended or if it is left with fluid after drilling but before reclamation. Water for the drilling program will be recirculated through the mud pit and there will be no discharge from the pit. A ditch 8 inches deep will carry recirculation water from the drill hole to the mud pit and the water will be delivered from the pit to the drill hole using a pump system associated with the drill rig.

The drilling mud nor the drilling cuttings are toxic or acid forming. Several roof and floor rock samples were taken during the 1994 Willow Creek Mine exploration program. These samples were analyzed for acid/toxic forming potential and none was found. These samples are taken from the same general geologic formations and would be representative of the rock being drilled during this program. The analyses data will be provided to the division if requested for this drilling program.

Drilling will be conducted in a manner which minimizes disturbance to the hydrologic balance of the area.

- 2 After drilling is completed in less than one week's time, the site will be cleaned of any drilling debris and returned to the existing condition. The drill hole will be plugged with cement from top to bottom. The fence around the pit if used will be removed. The mud pit will be backfilled with excavated material. The site will be seeded with the same seed mix as used on the previous plan. No other reclamation will be required since the site contains no environmental resources.

This drilling activity will be essentially the same as the geotechnical drilling conducted during the fall of 1994, and will create no more disturbance except for the mud pit.

Other Agency consultations

Enclosed is a clearance letter from the Division of Wildlife Resources giving clearance to drill after April 1 at site 1 (the site chosen). Originally, two sites were considered, however, the final site is as shown on Map No. 2. Site 2 was located at the edge of Highway 191, 200 feet up-canyon from the side canyon where hole 1 is located. This hole to be drilled is referred to in the DWR letter as site 1.

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PRICE UTAH

Schedule

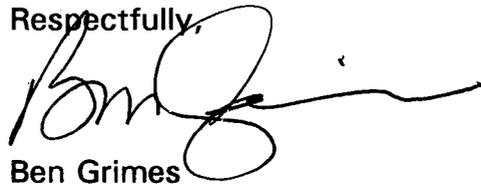
We would like to start the drilling project within the next two weeks.

Two copies of this submittal are enclosed, one for you and one for Darron.

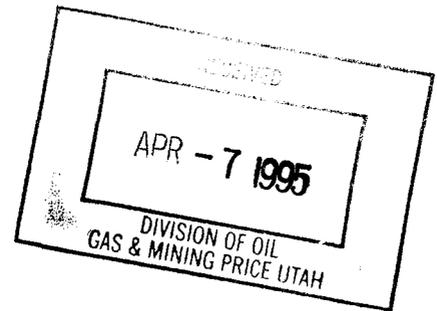
This submittal is formatted to be directly inserted into the Blackhawk Exploration Plan dated 1992; insert it at the end behind the last modification. A new chronology sheet is also included, insert it in the front of the 1992 plan.

If you need additional copies or other information let me know.

Respectfully,



Ben Grimes
Project Manager



Attachments

File: WCENV2.5.2.9

Chron: BG950402

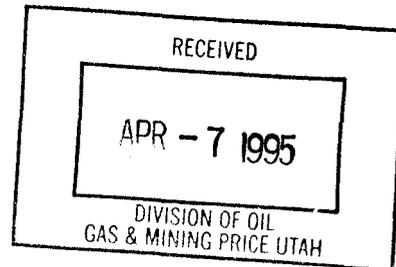
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APR 07 1995

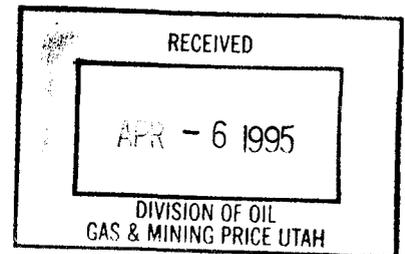
**DIV. OIL, GAS & MINING
PRICE UTAH**

Chronology

Original exploration permit application submitted	June, 1992
Original plan approved	July 9, 1992
Modification No. 1 submitted	April 21, 1994
Modification No. 1 approved	May 5, 1994
Modification No. 2 submitted	October 19, 1994
Modification No. 2 approved with conditions	October 25, 1994
Modification No. 3 submitted	November 4, 1994
Modification No. 3 approved	November 25, 1994
Modification No. 4 submitted	April 4, 1995



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APR 07 1995
DIV. OIL, GAS & MINING
PRICE UTAH





State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Ted Stewart
Executive Director
Robert G. Valentine
Division Director

Southeastern Region
455 West Railroad Avenue
Price, Utah 84501-2829
801-637-3310
801-637-7361 (Fax)

March 17, 1995

John Mercier, Geologic Supervisor
Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
P.O. Box PMC
Price, Utah 84501

Dear John:

The Division of Wildlife Resources has reviewed your request for an early clearance to drill a core hole in Willow Creek Canyon. The area is classified as high value deer and elk winter range and is subject to a November 1 to April 15 closure.

On March 14, Bill Bates, Habitat Manager, visited the site and found that some mule deer are still in the area near proposed site 1. However, with early green-up, deer and elk should be moving up the hill side as grasses and forbs begin to grow.

If current weather patterns hold and no major snowstorms hit the area, we anticipate drilling activities could be allowed by April 1 at site 1. Drilling activities could be allowed at proposed site 2 now, since it is along the highway and disturbance at this location would not impact wintering deer.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have questions, contact Bill Bates at this office.

Sincerely,

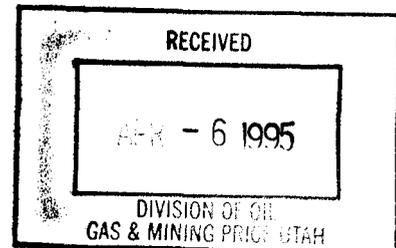
Miles Moretti
Regional Supervisor

copy: BLM, Price
DOGM
Habitat, SLO

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APR 07 1995

DIV. OIL, GAS & MINING
PRICE, UTAH





State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
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Executive Director
Robert G. Valentine
Division Director

Southeastern Region
455 West Railroad Avenue
Price, Utah 84501-2829
801-637-3310
801-637-7361 (Fax)

March 17, 1995

John Mercier, Geologic Supervisor
Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
P.O. Box PMC
Price, Utah 84501

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We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have questions, contact Bill Bates at this office.

Sincerely,

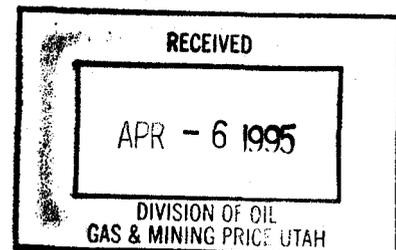
Miles Moretti
Regional Supervisor

copy: BLM, Price
DOGM
Habitat, SLO

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DIV. OIL, GAS & MINING
PRICE, UTAH





Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
P.O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-2875

March 9, 1995

Mr. Bill Bates
State of Utah
Division of Wildlife Resources
455 West Rail Road Ave
Price, Utah 84501

Subject: Request for Drilling Clearance for Shallow Core Hole in Willow Creek Canyon

Dear Bill,

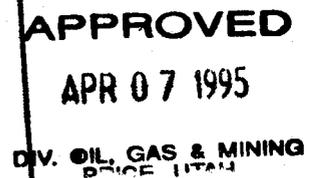
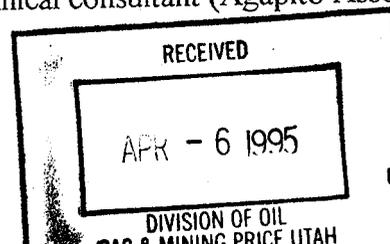
As you suggested on March 6, 1995, I am taking this means to request clearance to drill one shallow core hole in the Willow Creek Canyon just above the proposed Cyprus Plateau portal site so as to obtain D Seam coal core samples for geotechnical testing. Results from the geotechnical testing will be become important analyses and design parameters in the mine planning process. Two possible sites have been located either of which would meet the criteria of minimum impact, shallow cover, and accessibility.

Site No. 1 (which is the preferred site and shown on the attached map), is located about 200 feet up a small side canyon on the East side of Highway 33 (about 1200 feet up the drainage from the proposed portal site). The coordinates of the proposed site are E2185295, N511980. There is an existing pad located at the site. A small mud pit would have to be constructed. The core hole would be about 200 feet total depth.

Site No. 2, could be located just off the existing Right-of-Way of Highway 33. This site is about 1400 feet north-east of the portal site on the north side of the road. Location coordinates are E2185260, N512365 (see attached map). This site would likely require an additional clearance from the Highway Department. A mud pit would need to be installed. Total depth of the hole would be about 300 feet.

The proposed drill would be a trailer-mounted electric-hydraulic powered core rig. The drill motor would require the use of a diesel-powered generator. The shallow depth of the hole sites would indicate that either hole could be drilled, cemented, and reclaimed in a week's time. Other necessary equipment would include a small water tank, pickup trucks, and some small mixing tanks.

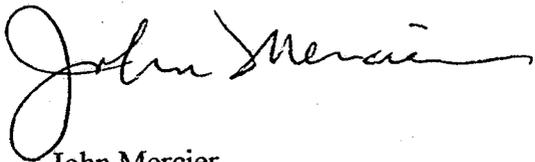
Cyprus Plateau Mining Co. presently has a geotechnical consultant (Agapito Associates of



Grand Junction, CO.) working on various aspects of the Willow Creek Mine Project. The geotechnical work, which is being done in phases, will require additional coal seam strength data in the near future to validate significant design assumptions. The sooner the samples can be collected, the better. If we could be drilling near the end of March, 1995, a number of our projects would be greatly facilitated.

Your quick action and decision on this matter will be greatly appreciated. Please let me know how you wish to proceed. My work number is (801) 636-2254.

Sincerely,



John Mercier
Geologic Supervisor

Map attached

cc: B. Grimes

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APR 07 1995

**DIV. OIL, GAS & MINING
PRICE, UTAH**

