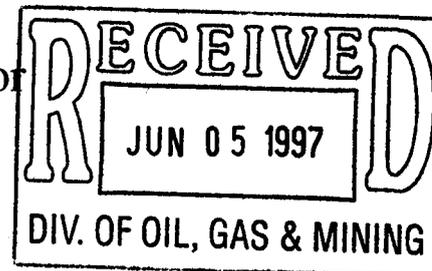




United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Moab District
 Price River/San Rafael Resource Area
 125 South 600 West
 Price, Utah 84501



3482
 UTU-73975
 (UT-066)
 JUN - 2 1997

Memorandum

To: Senior Project Manager Utah, Western Regional Coordinating Center, Office of Surface Mining, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, Colorado 80202-5733

From: ~~Acting~~ Area Manager

Subject: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Willow Creek Mine, Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation

ACT/007/038 #3

The Bureau of Land Management has received and reviewed the subject R2P2 as part of the permit application package for adding Federal coal lease UTU-73975 to the approved Willow Creek Mine permit. This letter documents the Bureau's findings for the R2P2 as required by the laws governing the Federal coal lease.

Cyprus has recently permitted the Willow Creek Mine for a large area covered by an approved R2P2 in conjunction with the Blackhawk Logical Mining Unit (LMU). Having been the successful bidder for the new Willow Creek Tract Coal Lease, Cyprus has submitted an R2P2 that covers the whole of the permit area, including the new lease tract. Our recommendation on this R2P2 will supersede any previous approvals for this property.

Our review of the mining plan finds some of the following items. Cyprus plans to mine all areas of minable coal or has justified areas of no mining. The property is complex, with multiple seams, geologic constraints, old mine works, etc., which were fully addressed in the plan. The area in the northeast portion has potential mining, but is speculative based on the depth of mining (+2500 feet). Also, some of areas were not to be mined based on protection of cliffs. In both cases, these areas may or may not be mined based on limited information and the BLM will further address these issues as new information and mining experience is obtained.

The submitted R2P2 is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the lease terms and conditions, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. We recommend the R2P2 be approved as part of the permit application. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk or George Tetreault of my staff at (801) 636-3600.

MARK E. BAILEY

cc: UT-921, Utah State Office
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