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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155

Fax Peter @ PFO
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DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TELEFAX NUMBER (801)539-4200

DATE: JULY 25, 2001 NO. OF PAGES SENT 6 TOTAL

FROM: CHRIS MERRITT TELEPHONE NUMBER: (801)539-4149

TO: PRM GRUBB-GRETTIG

FAX NUMBER 359-3940 TELEPHONE NUMBER: 538-5268

SUBJECT: REUNQUISHMENTS/WITHDRAWALS FROM MODIFICATION
OF BLACKHAWK LMA

COMMENTS:

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155

In Reply Refer To:

3452

UTSL-029093-046653

UTSL-071737

U-058184

U-25485

UTU-73346 (Blackhawk LMU)

(UT-924)

JUL 27 2001

Mr. Lowell Braxton, Director
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Dear Mr. Braxton:

On July 29, 2001, Plateau Mining Corporation and Blackhawk Coal Company filed, in this office, a request for full relinquishment of Federal coal leases UTSL-029093-046653, UTSL-071737, U-058184, and U-25485. The parties simultaneously requested that the leases be withdrawn from the modification to the Blackhawk Logical Mining Unit filed in this office November 23, 1998. Enclosed is a copy of the relinquishment/withdrawal document.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 3452.1-3, a relinquishment can be accepted if it is determined that the relinquishment will not impair the public interest and that all obligations of the lessee under the regulations and the terms of the lease have been met. Please advise whether you have any input or information, regarding this relinquishment, that should be considered by BLM in making these determinations.

The leases consist of the following land description:

UTSL-029093-046653

T. 12 S., R. 9 E., SLM, UT
Sec. 26, S2SW, SWSE;
Sec. 27, S2S2;
Sec. 28, SESE;
Sec. 33, N2N2, SENE, NESE;
Sec. 34, All.

2.

T. 13 S., R. 9 E., SLM, UT
Sec. 3, lots 1, 2.

Containing 1,284.42 acres. Carbon County

UTSI-071737

T. 12 S., R. 9 E., SLM, UT
Sec. 26, NW, N2SW, W2NE, NWSE;
Sec. 27, N2, N2S2;
Sec. 28, N2, SW, N2SE, SWSE;
Sec. 29, NENE, S2N2, S2.

Containing 1,960.00 acres. Carbon County

U-058184

T. 12 S., R. 9 E., SLM, UT
Sec. 33, lots 1-4, SWNE, S2NW, N2SW, NWSE.

T. 13 S., R. 9 E., SLM, UT
Sec. 3, lots 3,4;
Sec. 4, lots 1-4;
Sec. 5, lot 1.

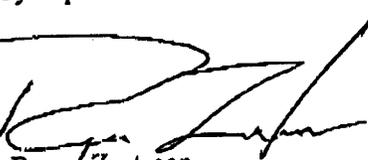
Containing 693.89 acres. Carbon County

U-25485

T. 12 S., R. 9 E., SLM, UT
Sec. 30, Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE.

Containing 490.34 acres. Carbon County

No response is required. If we do not receive a reply by September 1, 2001, BLM will assume there is no input to be provided.



Roger Zortman
DSD, Division of Lands and Minerals

Enclosure:

1. Relinquishment/Withdrawal Document (3 pp)

**PLATEAU
MINING
CORPORATION**

Willow Creek Mine
847 NW Hwy 191
Helper, Utah 84526
(435) 472-0475
Fax: (435) 472-4780

An affiliate of **RAG**

July 5, 2001

Chris Merritt, Land Law Examiner
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Utah State Office
324 South State
P. O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155

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Bureau of
Land Management

U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653
Modification of Blackhawk Logical Mining Unit No. UTU-73346
Willow Creek Mine
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Merritt:

Enclosed for your further handling/action are five (5) originals and ten (10) copies of a joint Notice dated June 29, 2001 from Plateau Mining Corporation and Blackhawk Coal Company to the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. The Notice covers various subjects, one (1) original and two (2) copies of which are hereby submitted for each of the above captioned federal coal leases and the Blackhawk Logical Mining Unit.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact C. Corwin Bromley at (303) 749-8438.

Sincerely yours,



L. T. Gaskins
Sr. Land Administrator
Englewood, CO Office

/ltg

Enclosures (15)

J. Borla -- Plateau Mining Corporation (Helper, UT)
C. Bromley, Esq. -- RAG American Coal Holding, Inc. (Englewood, CO)
J. Marshall -- Bureau of Land Management, Price District Office
K. McDonough -- AEP/Blackhawk Coal Company (Columbus, OH)
J. Pappas -- Plateau Mining Corporation (Helper, UT)
G. Walker, Esq. -- RAG American Coal Holding, Inc. (Linthicum, MD)
D. Ware -- Plateau Mining Corporation (Helper, UT)
M. Wong -- RAG American Coal Holding, Inc. (Linthicum, MD)

Chris Merritt, Land Law Examiner
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
P. O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0155

June 29, 2001

RE: U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653 Willow Creek Mine, Carbon County, Utah

Notice of Relinquishment of Sublease Interests by Plateau Mining Corporation and Simultaneous Relinquishment of Leases by Blackhawk Coal Company;

Request for Withdrawal of Leases from Request for Modification of the Blackhawk LMU;

Request for Approval to Release Individual Coal Lease Bonds

Dear Mr. Merritt:

Notice is hereby given that Plateau Mining Corporation, as Sublessee, is relinquishing unto Blackhawk Coal Company, Sublessor, all of its right, title and interest in and to its sublease interests in U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653. No other subleases or leases held by Plateau Mining Corporation in Utah are affected by this notice.

Notice is further given that Blackhawk Coal Company, as Lessee, hereby simultaneously relinquishes unto the United States of America, Lessor, all of its right, title and interest in and to the same U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653. No other leases held by Blackhawk in Utah are affected by this notice.

Blackhawk Coal Company is the Lessee of record of U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653. Plateau Mining Corporation's sublease interests in these Leases are pursuant to that certain Sublease Agreement dated November 1, 1993 between Blackhawk Coal Company, Sublessor, and Cyprus Western Coal Company, now Plateau Mining Corporation, Sublessee, as amended by that certain First Amendment to Eastern Sublease Agreement dated effective July 17, 1998 between Blackhawk Coal Company, Sublessor, and Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, now Plateau Mining Corporation, Sublessee. Relinquishment of the sublease interests by Plateau Mining Corporation is pursuant to Section 2.2 of the Sublease Agreement.

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JUL 9 2001

Bureau of
Land Management

Chris Merritt, Land Law Examiner
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Land Management
 June 29, 2001
Page 2 of 2

In connection with the above-mentioned relinquishments, Plateau Mining Corporation also hereby simultaneously requests the following:

1. The withdrawal of U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653 from that certain Request for Modification of the Blackhawk Logical Mining Unit No. UTU-73346 dated November 29, 1998, which Request for Modification was amended by letter dated December 9, 1998. Except for the removal of these four federal leases, Request for Modification of the Blackhawk Logical Mining Unit No. UTU-73346 should now be processed and finalized, retroactive to the November 29, 1998 filing date.

2. Bureau of Land Management approval to release of the individual coal lease bonds covering U.S. Coal Lease Nos. UTU-25485, UTSL-071737, U-058184 and SL-029093-046653 only.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Plateau Mining Corporation's counsel, C. Corwin Bromley, at (303) 749-8438. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

PLATEAU MINING CORPORATION

BLACKHAWK COAL COMPANY

By: *Tim J. Wood*

By: *(Signature)*

Title: *VICE PRESIDENT*

Title: *PRESIDENT & CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER*

CC:

J. Borla – Plateau Mining Corporation (Helper, UT)
 C. Bromley, Esq. – RAG American Coal Holding, Inc. (Englewood, CO)
 L. Gaskins – RAG American Coal Holding, Inc. (Englewood, CO)
 J. Marshall – Bureau of Land Management, Price District Office
 K. McDonough – AEP/Blackhawk Coal Company (Columbus, OH)
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