

**PLATEAU
MINING
CORPORATION**

Willow Creek Mine
PO Box 30
847 NW Hwy 191
Helper, Utah 84526
(435) 472-0475
Fax: (435) 472-4782

An affiliate of **RAG**

June 9, 2003

Mr. Wayne Western
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

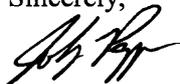
Re: **Discontinuance of Subsidence Monitoring at the Willow Creek Mine, Plateau Mining Corporation, Willow Creek Mine, C/007/038, Carbon County, Utah**

Dear Mr. Western:

Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) is submitting a revision to page 4.5-34, per your request, stating that subsidence monitoring will be discontinued. Hopefully the minor verbiage and structure change makes it clear that no further monitoring of the subsidence control points will be performed.

If the Division have any questions or needs additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (435) 472-4741.

Sincerely,



Johnny Pappas
Sr. Environmental Engineer

Enclosures

File: Willow Creek Mine -- Subsidence Discontinuance
Chron.: JP030601.ltr

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING

Permit Change New Permit Renewal Exploration Bond Release Transfer

Permittee: Plateau Mining Corporation

Mine: Willow Creek Mine

Permit Number: C/007/038

Title: Discontinuance of Subsidence Monitoring

Description, Include reason for application and timing required to implement:

Based on survey data through 2002, no subsidence occurred over the underground mine workings

Instructions: If you answer yes to any of the first eight (gray) questions, this application may require Public Notice publication.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? Acres: ___ Disturbed Area: ___ <input type="checkbox"/> increase <input type="checkbox"/> decrease. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO# _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 3. Does the application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 4. Does the application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 5. Does the application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 6. Does the application require or include public notice publication? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 7. Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 8. Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies?
<i>Explain:</i> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 15. Does the application require or include soil removal, storage or placement? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps or calculation? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 22. Does the application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities? |

Please attach four (4) review copies of the application. If the mine is on or adjacent to Forest Service land please submit five (5) copies, thank you. (These numbers include a copy for the Price Field Office)

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.

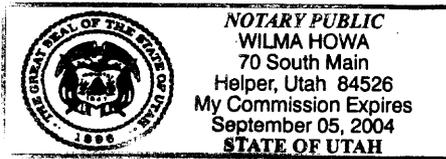
Johnny Pappas
Print Name

[Signature] - Sr. Env. Engineer - 6/10/03
Sign Name, Position, Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of June, 2003

Wilma Howa
Notary Public

My commission Expires: 9/5, 2004
Attest: State of Utah) ss:
County of Carbon



For Office Use Only:

Assigned Tracking Number:

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will be required. Subsidence monitoring results for several mine (Star Point Mine, Wilberg Mine, and Castle Gate Mine) in this part of Utah indicate that maximum subsidence typically occurs in approximately 2 to 3 years following cessation of active mining. Since these mines operated in essentially the same geologic sequence as the Willow Creek Mine it is anticipated that the time interval for maximum subsidence to occur will be similar. If actual subsidence response does not follow this pattern, the monitoring schedule may be adjusted as appropriate.

Subsidence monitoring data will be reported to UDOGM annually in conjunction with other applicable annual reporting requirements. The subsidence monitoring report will consist of an updated mining map showing the subsidence monitoring sites, a spreadsheet summarizing all historical horizontal and vertical location data for each surveyed monitoring point, and subsidence profile graphs for surveyed subsidence monuments.

Subsidence control points were installed in 1997 to monitor subsidence effects from underground mining operations. The data *gathered* through 2002 (Exhibit 16) shows no subsidence occurred over the Willow Creek Mine; *therefore, subsidence monitoring will be discontinued.*

Due to the misfortunes of the Willow Creek Mine, mine development activities never created enough void space whereby subsidence would occur. The data shows some anomalies which can be explained as engineering error when in-house surveyors performed the monitoring versus the data gathered by a registered land surveyor. Graphical presentation of the data has not been generated due to the lack of any substantial subsidence.

Data presented in Exhibit 10 – Hydrologic Conditions at the Willow Creek Mine at Mine Closure including Projections of Future Potentiometric Levels and recommended Monitoring Plans, analyzed the hydrologic data and demonstrated that no mining related impacts to the hydrologic balance in the permit and adjacent area occurred.

4.5.2.3 Mine Structures and Facilities

The underground mining and related activities will require limited surface support facilities. The facilities to be utilized in conjunction with operations will include both existing facilities located in the Castle Gate, Gravel Canyon, and Crandall Canyon areas and new facilities to be constructed in the Willow Creek mine surface facilities area. These facilities will provide the necessary infrastructure for effective management and handling of personnel, equipment, materials and supplies, and both coal and mine waste materials, and will include a number of structures specifically designed to control or mitigate potential mining related impacts.

Construction of required surface structures and facilities has previously been discussed in Section 4.5.2.2, General Description of Mine Plans, Mining Methods, and Related Design Requirements. The surface structures and facilities will be operated, maintained, and ultimately reclaimed in a manner that prevents or controls erosion and siltation, water pollution, and damage to public or private property; and to the extent possible using the best technology currently available, minimizes damage to fish, wildlife, and related environmental values, and minimizes additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area. Any contribution of suspended solids from mine disturbance areas will not exceed applicable effluent limitation under Utah or Federal law.

Methane degasification wells are presently permitted under BLM jurisdiction for permitting and bonding requirements.

Required surface facilities are shown and identified on the Mine Surface Facilities Map, (Map 18B). The following lists the surface facilities:

Willow Creek Surface Facilities Area

Description

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Mine/Fire Water Tank – 350,000 Gallons | 9. U-G1 Belt Drive Building |
| 2. Run of Mine (R.O.M.) Coal Stockpile | 10. Mine Portals (5 ea.) |
| 3. Propane Tanks | 11. Shop Building |
| 4. R.O.M. Escape Tunnel | 12. Warehouse Building |
| 5. Elevated Conveyor Canopy | 13. Motor Control Building & Methane Pump Facility |
| 6. Mine Ventilation Fan Set | 14. Administration and Bathhouse Building |
| 7. Mine Ventilation Shaft | 15. 4" Temporary Water Line |
| 8. Main Substation | 16. Used Oil Tanks |