# WATER QUALITY MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

March 14, 2008

TO: Internal File

THRU: James D. Smith, Permit Supervisor JS 04/11/08

FROM: David W. Darby, Senior Reclamation Specialist/Hydrology

RE: 2007, 3rd Quarter Water Monitoring, Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC), Willow Creek Mine, C/007/0038-WQ07-3, Task ID #2623

The Willow Creek Mine is in reclamation. The mines have been closed and sealed. The disturbed areas around the portals have been regraded to AOC and seeded. The most recent surface operations took place in Willow Creek Canyon, about a mile from the junction between U.S. Highway 6 and State Highway 191. The reclaimed area in Crandall Canyon is also part of the Willow Creek permit area.

This report was prepared based on information in File: O:\007038.WIL\Water Quality\datacheck2007(1-3).xls. There are no ground water sites monitored during reclamation the phase.

**1. Was data submitted for all of required sites?**

Under the reclamation plan, surface water monitoring is required for sites listed in Exhibit 7-3 and shown on Map 15.

**Springs** There are no springs monitored during the reclamation phase.

**YES [ ] NO [ ]** NA

**Streams** There are six surface water monitoring sites. Sites B3N (Willow Creek above power plant), B-5 (Price River below processing plant above Willow Creek), B-6 (Price River above coal processing plant), B25 (Crandall Canyon Creek), B26 (lower reach of Crandall Canyon) and B151. The reclamation sampling water quality list is presented in Section 13, p. 28. Sampling is conducted quarterly. PMC tries to monitor the sites within a two week period from March 15th, June 10th, September 5th and November 30th to attempt to collect data that coincides with first thaw, Spring high flow, end of Summer low-flow and last sample before freeze-up.

**YES [X] NO [ ]**

All required stream sites were reported for the quarter. Sites B25 and 26 in Crandall were reported as having no flow. All stream sites were monitored on April 28, 2007.

Crandall Canyon shaft settled on December 2, 2006. PMC immediately acquired a contractor to backfill the shaft. The shaft contained water overflowed unmeasured volume during backfilling operations on December 3rd an unmeasured volume of water overflowed the shaft and discharged down Crandall Creek. PMC immediately abated backfilling activities. Plans have been developed to control future discharges and backfill the ventilation shaft. PMC's UPDES permit was modified to include the temporary discharge to the Crandall Canyon. Reporting will begin in April 2007.

**Wells** There are no operational monitoring wells.

**YES [ ] NO [ ] N/A**

**UPDES** Two UPDES sites are monitored monthly in accordance with UPDES requirements at the Willow Creek Mine. Site 001 is the sedimentation pond and Site 002 is the temporary discharge in Crandall Canyon.

**YES [X] NO [ ]** No discharge measured or reported from the sedimentation pond.

**2. Were all required parameters reported for each site?**

**Springs** YES [ ] NO [ ] NA

**Streams** YES [X] NO [ ] B-25 and B-26 reported no flow.

**Wells** YES [ ] NO [ ] NA

**UPDES** YES [X] NO [ ] No discharge from Site 001.

**3. Were irregularities found in the data?**

**Springs** YES [ ] NO [ ] NA

**Streams** YES [ ] NO [X]

**Wells** YES [ ] NO [ ] NA

**UPDES** YES [ ] NO [X]

**4. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.**

Not specified in MRP. It should be updated at Mid-term or Five Year Renewal.

**5. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?**

Keep informed of the events occurring at the reclaimed Crandall Canyon mine site.

**Does the Mine Operator need to submit more information to fulfill this quarter's monitoring requirements? [ ] Yes [X] No**

**6. Follow-up from last quarter, if necessary.**
**Did the Mine Operator submit all the missing and/or irregular data (datum)?**

None required.