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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
Dr. G. A. (Jim) Shirazi, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

September 22, 1983

Mr. Don Nelson
Western States Minerals Corporation
4975 Van Gordon
Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033

RE: Policy Regarding Operator Responses
to Division Reviews of Permanent
Program Permit Applications
J. B. King Mine
ACT/015/002, Folder Nos. 2 and 6
Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Nelson:

In order that the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining can meet its statutory obligations of permitting all coal mining operations under the permanent regulatory program, it has become necessary for the Division to adopt and enforce a strict policy regarding allowable time to respond to Division requests for additional information.

All responses to Division requests for information must be complete and furnished within time frames established by the Division. Individual circumstances will be considered, wherever possible, in setting the maximum allowable time for a particular request, but the overall goal of issuing a permanent program permit within a fixed time period remains to be of paramount importance.

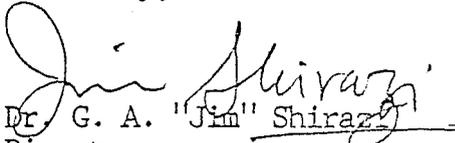
Failure to comply with this policy and meeting the established deadlines with complete and adequate information will result in suspension of your interim permit, placement of the application in a lower review priority and cessation of operations until such time as a permanent program permit is issued.

It is unfortunate that we have to take this position, but there appears to be no other alternative in resolving the problem of not receiving timely responses to permit reviews.

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We are very eager to issue you a permit, as I know you are eager to receive one--but it can't be done unless both parties work together as a team and cooperate to resolve this impasse.

Sincerely,


Dr. G. A. "Jim" Shirazi
Director

JS/JWS:btb

cc: Allen Klein, OSM, Denver
Robert Hagen, OSM, Albuquerque