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WESTERN  
STATES  
MINERALS  
CORPORATION



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December 16, 1991

Mr. Joseph C. Helfrich  
Utah Dept. of Natural Resources  
Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
355 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT  
P 672 257 923

Dear Mr. Helfrich:

Re: Utah Notice of Violations No. N91-35-6-1 and No. N91-35-7-1,  
Western States Minerals Corporation, J.B. King Mine,  
ACT/015/002, Folder #5, Emery County, Utah

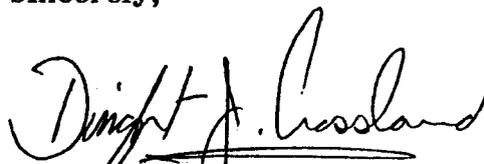
This document is the official written request that Western States Minerals Corporation ('WSMC') desires both an Informal Appeal Conference to appeal the facts of the Notices of Violation, as well as an Informal Assessment Conference to review the proposed penalties for Utah State Notices of Violation No. N91-35-6-1 and No. N91-35-7-1. Both of these Citations are in reference to the J.B. King (Dog Valley) Coal Mine, ACT /015/002, Folder #5, Emery County, Utah.

Please note that both an Informal Appeal Conference and an Informal Assessment Conference are being requested for each Notice of Violation. WSMC believes that these Notices of Violation are interrelated issues, and further requests that the two Informal Appeal Conferences be combined and heard at a unified conference. Similarly, WSMC believes that these Notices of Violation are interrelated issues in terms of the proposed penalties, and also requests that the two Informal Assessment Conferences be combined and heard at a unified conference. Last, WSMC proposes that the unified Informal Assessment Conference be held immediately subsequent to the unified Informal Appeal Conference, and preferably on the same date.

As a final matter, I am of the understanding from you (following our telephone conversation this afternoon), that these Informal Conferences are the preferred first step in the UDOGM appeal process, and that they will in no way infringe upon or denigrate WSMC's rights of formal appeal to UDOGM, or to further judicial review.

Please let me know if you require further information.

Sincerely,

  
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Dwight J. Crossland

cc: E. Gerick