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DIVISION OF  
January 31 1980 OIL, GAS & MINING

MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Director, Office of Surface Mining  
Denver, Colorado

FROM: Area Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Salt Lake City, Utah

SUBJECT: Huntington Canyon Mine No. 4--UT-0004

We provided you by memorandum of September 11, 1979, a recommended stipulation to be considered for incorporation in the mining plan for the Huntington Canyon Mine No. 4. Subsequently, we found an incorrect determination was made of some existing data regarding large game animal road kill. We have researched this problem in greater detail and copies of several reference articles dealing with the subject have been provided to Ms. Shirley Lindsay of your staff.

Also, after several discussions with personnel of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, we collectively decided to address this problem in a somewhat different manner. Rather than use this stipulation in a blanket manner, it would be better to evaluate each mine to determine if a significant problem exists and apply the stipulation if necessary.

Therefore, we suggest the following stipulation be incorporated into the mine plan for Huntington Canyon Mine No. 4. When this mine is in operation, an examination will be made of the operation to determine whether the coal haul and other vehicle traffic associated with this operation is contributing to loss of wildlife as a result of wildlife/ vehicle collisions.

Should a problem be identified relating to this operation, the mine operator will implement corrective action to eliminate this wildlife/ vehicle collision problem. If the operator fails to implement corrective action, the following requirements would be implemented immediately. "The operator should not permit coal haul truck traffic in the permit area from sunset to one-half hour before sunrise and shall not permit coal haul truck traffic in the permit area from sunset to midnight. These restrictions would be exercised during the winter period when large game animals are located on their winter ranges. These animals may occur on these ranges between November 1 and May 15. The operator will contact the UDWR at Price, Utah to determine the specific period of this larger time span that the stipulation would be in effect. Adherence

to this stipulation will reduce the potential for wildlife road kill during the period of the year when these animals may be concentrated in areas adjacent to access and haul roads."

We regret the bad guidance provided in our earlier recommended stipulation. It is hoped that this has not caused the Office of Surface Mining or the operators of Huntington Canyon Mine No. 4 any severe inconvenience.

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Div. of Oil Gas & Mining  
Div. of Wildlife Resources  
cc: Reading File  
Official File  
CDJohnson:wls