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June 29, 1979

Mr. Timothy O'Conner
Consolidation Coal Company
#2 Inverness Drive East
Englewood, Colorado 80110

ACT/015/015

RE: Emery Deep Mine

Dear Mr. O'Conner:

The Division would like to bring to your attention the requirements of Section 211.62 of Title 30, Code of Federal Regulations applying to the mining of Federal coal leases. The Division is presently proceeding under a cooperative agreement with the Department of the Interior in the execution of these regulations. This section requires an accounting of reclamation activities within 30 days after the end of each calendar year. A report of each planting is required in the annual report and should also be available on site within a required 30 day period. If you have not already done so, please submit an accounting of reclamation activities which took place at your mining operations during 1978. Submit this report within 30 days to the Division and copy it to the Office of Surface Mining in Denver.

The Division further requests your company to collect quantitative data, this summer season, on any past revegetated areas. This information will aid in final determinations on the success of revegetation and will aid in your future revegetation efforts.

With regard to compliance with the performance standards of the permanent regulatory program, which will be effective in September, 1979, the Division strongly urges that you give attention to the matter of reference areas. Vegetative reference areas will be required by the

Division of each mining operation as a means of determining satisfactory revegetation. Guidelines for use in establishing reference areas are currently being drawn up by the Division, and will be available at a later date. In the meantime, if the Division can offer assistance to you in this area, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Cleon B. Feight

CLEON B. FEIGHT
DIRECTOR

CBF/sp
enc: MR Form 3
Operations and Progress Report

cc: Office of Surface Mining, Region V