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Consolidation Coal Company
Western Region
Emery Mine
P. O. Box 527
Emery, Utah 48522

July 20, 1983

Mr. Cy Young
State of Utah
Department of Natural Resources and Energy
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Young:

Consolidation Coal Company requests approval of the following new procedures and standards for establishing subsidence monitoring stations and conducting semi-annual subsidence surveys:

1. New stations shall be established by closed traverse survey with a horizontal closure of one (1) part in 10,000, or better. Elevations shall be established by differential leveling with a vertical closure of one-tenth of a foot (0.10').

2. Subsequent check surveys, scheduled in accordance with the mine's subsidence monitoring plan, shall utilize differential leveling with a vertical closure of five-tenths of a foot (0.50').

3. If a check survey indicates that subsidence may have occurred, the affected stations shall be included in a horizontal traverse to determine the extent of horizontal movement in the area, if any.

Previous standards (reference enclosed correspondence R. Bourdeaux to M. Thompson, Jan. 30, 1980) required both horizontal and vertical check surveys. Experience has shown that vertical movement can be readily and accurately determined by differential leveling. Horizontal movement, however, is of a lesser magnitude and more difficult to detect. Further, horizontal movement is not anticipated without a vertical component accompanying it. Hence, the request to discontinue horizontal check surveys unless vertical movement has already been established.

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These new standards and procedures do not change the subsidence monitoring plan. Rather, they are intended to establish and clarify the procedures necessary to implement the existing plan. While the new standards require a greater survey accuracy, these closures are both practicable and necessary to confidently establish the extent of movement if subsidence should occur.

It should be noted that all previous baseline surveys, and most check surveys, have achieved these standards.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this proposal. Should you have any questions, please contact me at the mine (286-2301).

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Thompson
Mine Engineer

enclosure

/rt

cc: J. Higgins
R. Holbrook
S. Jaccaud