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United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

JAN 28 1985

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fred Bolwahn, Field Supervisor
Endangered Species Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Salt Lake City, Utah

FROM: Russell F. Price, Chief
Engineering Analysis Division

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russell F. Price".

SUBJECT: Biological Assessment for the Deer Creek Mine, Emery
County, Utah

Prior to the Department of the Interior's (DOI) implementation of the Windy Gap Process for determining impacts on threatened or endangered fishes, your office indicated that there were no listed species in the vicinity of the Deer Creek Mine. At your request, the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) has reviewed the Deer Creek operation in light of the Windy Gap Process to determine if the operation will result in any water depletion that could affect endangered fishes of the Upper Colorado River Basin.

The Deer Creek Mine is situated between the North Fork of Cottonwood Creek and Huntington Creek in Township 16 and 17 South and Ranges 6 and 7 East. The operation does not use any surface water or water from the alluvium. Water used by the operator comes from underground sources; and is merely diverted, treated and discharged to Huntington Creek. In summary, the operator is augmenting the flows of Huntington Creek with ground water.

Therefore, OSM has concluded that the Deer Creek Mine operations will not affect listed fishes or adversely modify critical habitat.

If you have any questions please contact Don Henne at (FTS) 564-5421.