file ACT/015/018 #6

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A LIGHT COMPANY
MINING DIVISION
P.O. Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

PRICE RAM
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AUG 26 '88

August 23, 1988

Mr. James W. Dryden
Bureau of Land Management
Moab District
900 North 700 East
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Dryden:

In reply to the three small concerns contained in your letter dated August 16th, the proposed changes to the Deer Creek Mine resource recovery and protection plan are revised.

The first concern addressed the area where the Hiawatha seam will be accessed from the Blind Canyon seam at the top end of Rilda Canyon. Two possible locations for access into the lower Hiawatha seam were shown on the map but not labeled. The enclosed revised map has these locations labeled as; "Possible Hiawatha Seam Access Locations".

The second concern addressed reserves located on the east side of the Pleasant Valley fault. Based on current geologic information, these reserves cannot be mined by longwall methods. The reserves are separated from the main body of the LMU by the Pleasant Valley fault and then divided in two by at least one east-west trending fault. The area where the coal is contained is exposed to outcrop burn conditions, and lies outward from the sandstone escarpment. The physical nature of this area necessitates acquiring additional geologic and coal quality information before the economic viability and possible mine sequencing of the reserves can be determined.

The third concern addresses the subsidence factor along the outcrop in Rilda Canyon where the reserves extend outward from the sandstone escarpment. The Mining Division anticipates that the recommendations from the committee will be objective when comparing the geologic environment contained in the Rilda Canyon leases with information gathered from the vastly different South lease study area. This would reduce any unnecessary loss of minable reserve.

Please let me know if you require additional information for final Deer Creek Mine R2P2 approval.

Sincerely Yours,

Bart Hyita
Director of Operations
Engineering

BH/jd

Enclosure: Mine Map

cc: Jim Ward, BLM
Morgan Moon
Dave Smaldone