

0054

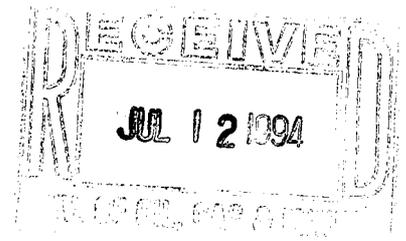


State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Ted Stewart  
Executive Director  
Robert G. Valentine  
Division Director

1596 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-3195  
801-538-4700  
801-583-4709 (Fax)

*cc JWC  
OJA  
JPB  
PC 2  
UB  
7-13-94  
orig mine file*



July 5, 1994

Mr. James W. Carter, Director  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 W. North Temple  
3 Triad Center  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Attention: Daron R. Haddock

Re: Rilda Canyon Lease Extension, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, ACT/015/018-94A, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Haddock:

The Division of Wildlife Resources has reviewed PacifiCorp's proposal to allow continued mining in a portion of the Rilda Canyon Lease which has not yet completed the permitting process. It is our understanding that this includes entry development mining that does not include second mining, and panel extraction within the Third and Fourth East panels which would result in subsidence of about 28 acres.

From reviewing aerial photos of the proposed subsidence sections and similar habitat where subsidence has occurred in the area, we do not anticipate any significant impacts. However, PacifiCorp has a monitoring system in place to analyze results of subsidence and its impacts to wildlife habitat. Subsidence this summer and fall may provide valuable information about the possible consequences caused by longwall mining of the Fifth and Sixth East panels. We are requesting that this information be forwarded to us. Our main concerns about subsidence from these panels include loss of an existing golden eagle nest and blockage of the stream channel that may occur with major spalling. We understand mining techniques designed for this area should avoid these impacts.



Mr. James W. Carter  
July 5, 1994  
Page Two

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions please contact Bill Bates, Habitat Manager at 801-637-3310.

Sincerely,

 [Acting Director

Robert G. Valentine  
Director