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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

Supervisor's Office
599 West Price River Drive
Price, UT 84501
Phone # (435) 637-2817
Fax # (435) 637-4940

File Code: 1950/ 2820-4

Date: March 15, 2001

Dept. of Natural Resources
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
Lowell Braxton, Director
1594 W. North Temple
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

[Handwritten signature]
3/15/2001
Copy Mary Ann, PFO
[Handwritten initials]

Dear Lowell:

Energy West Mining Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of PacifiCorp, proposes to conduct a "helicopter assisted coal exploration surface drilling program" during the 2001 field season in T.16S., R.6E., Sec: 10, 13, 15, 22 and T.16S., R.7E., Sec: 18 (refer to attached map). The project would consist of 7 shallow core holes (500-1200 feet deep) drilled in Mill Fork Canyon and on the west slope of East Mountain at upper Joes Valley to provide information necessary to evaluate the geologic stratigraphy, structure, hazards, and validate the geologic potential of the area's coal reserves on PacifiCorp's existing Mill Fork State Lease ML-48258. All disturbances would be properly reclaimed and seeded. No roads would be constructed.

The Forest Service must decide whether or not to authorize occupancy and use, by issuing Energy West Mining Company a Special Use Permit for the exploration drilling activity. Drilling for all holes is proposed to be helicopter supported, thus causing minimal surface impact. For this reason, it is anticipated that this action may be categorically excluded from further NEPA analysis (EA or EIS) under category 31.2 (3), "Approval, modification, or continuation of minor special uses of National Forest System lands that require less than five contiguous acres of land".

The Forest Service is requesting Federal, State, and local agencies, and other individuals or organizations interested in or potentially affected by the proposal to participate in the planning process through scoping ¹. If you have any comments or concerns you would like addressed in the environmental analysis, or have any questions regarding the project, please forward them to Jeffrey Wade DeFrest at the address above, by **April 15, 2001**. If you do not wish to comment

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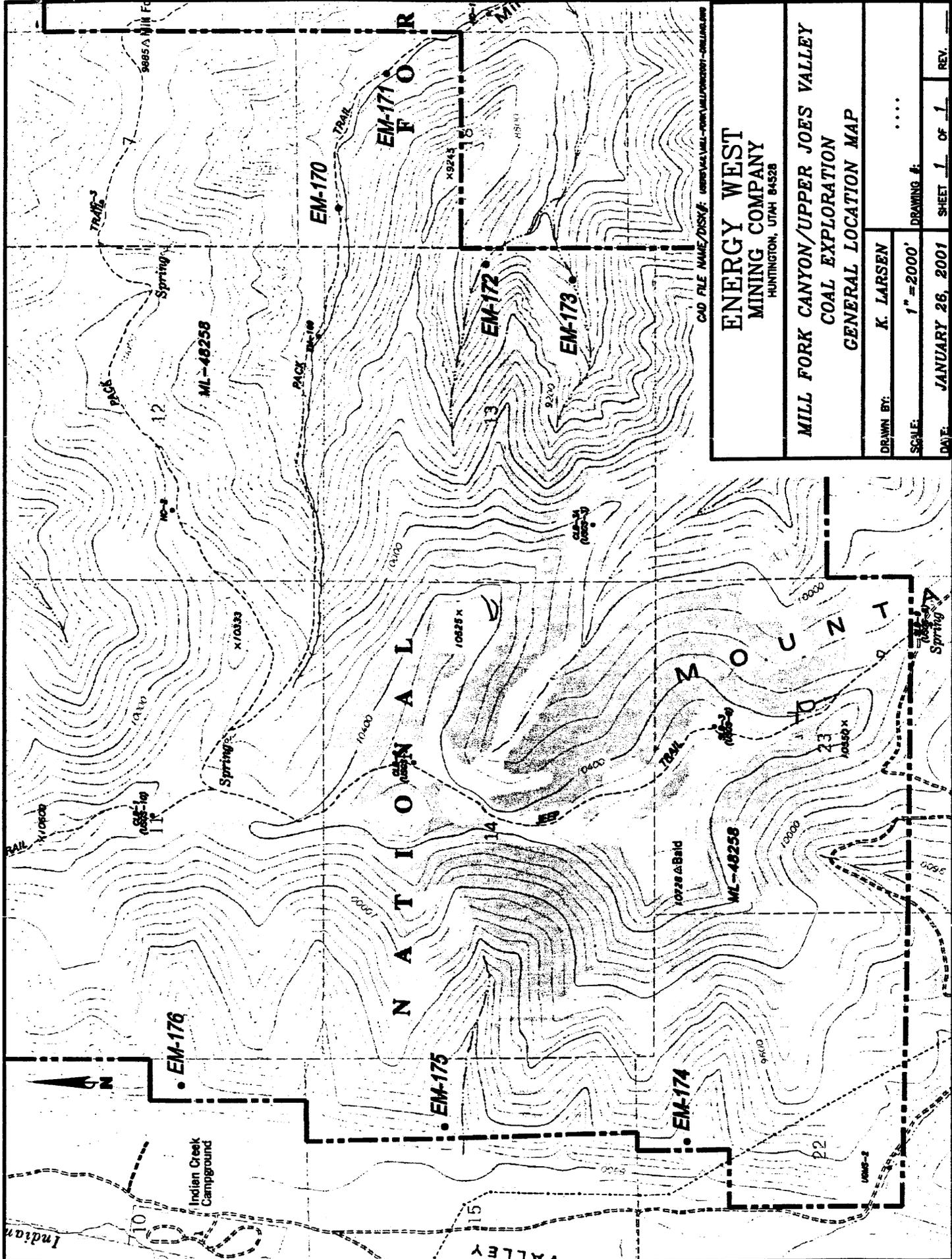
at this time, but would like to remain on the mailing list for this project, please also notify Mr. DeFreest.

Sincerely,


CROCKETT DUMAS
Ferron-Price District Ranger

Enclosures

¹ Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request that a submission be withheld from the public record by showing how the Freedom Of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that such confidentiality is granted in only very limited circumstances. The Forest will inform the requester of its decision regarding a request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the Forest will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address.



CAD FILE NAME/DISK# : UPPERVALE.MXD - (P:\MILLFORK\2001-2002\UPPERVALE.MXD)

**ENERGY WEST
MINING COMPANY**
HUNTINGTON, UTAH 84528

**MILL FORK CANYON/UPPER JOES VALLEY
COAL EXPLORATION
GENERAL LOCATION MAP**

DRAWN BY:	K. LARSEN
SCALE:	1" = 2000'	DRAWING #:
DATE:	JANUARY 26, 2001	SHEET 1 OF 1
		REV.