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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

Outgoing
COIS0018

&

cc: Davon

March 8, 2012

Liz Close
Acting Forest Supervisor
Manti-La Sal National Forest
599 West Price River Dr.
Price, UT 84501
comments-intermtn-manti-lasal-ferron-price@fs.fed.us

SUBJECT: Comment Letter, Federal Coal Lease Modification UTU-88554 and UTU-06039

Dear Ms. Close:

The following are the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining's (the Division) comments on the federal coal lease modification of leases UTU088554 and UTU-06039. In accordance with State of Utah R645-Coal Mining Rule R645-301-711.200, a sufficient setback distance from Joe's Valley Fault (as to minimize groundwater intrusion into the mine) should be maintained. Additionally, in accordance with R645-301-728.310, the Division would recommend that PacifiCorp fully evaluate possible impacts to Flat Canyon and Cottonwood Creek as a result of the lease expansion. PacifiCorp staff has indicated that they have already begun the process of conducting their due diligence and begun collecting baseline hydrologic information.

These concerns aside, the Division fully supports the lease modification of UTU088554 and UTU-06039. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the (801) 538-5350 or stevechristensen@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

Steve Christensen
Permit Supervisor