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File AC T/015/019 #2

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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U-065

Copy Susan, Jane, Joe, PAM

Moab District
P.O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

AUG 12 1991

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AUG 12 1991

Mr. Scott Child
PacifiCorp Electric Operations
Fuel Resources Division
One Utah Center
201 South Main Street, Suite 2100
Salt Lake City, Utah 84140

Dear Mr. Child:

We received PacifiCorp Electric Operations' (PacifiCorp's) plugging plan to modify exploration license UTU-67727 dated August 7, 1991. This information was submitted as a result of the meeting held on August 2, 1991 between representatives of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Forest Service, and PacifiCorp.

A meeting was required because of the unapproved plugging procedure that was identified in the notice of noncompliance issued by the BLM on July 26, 1991 involving drill hole TMTN-7 under exploration license UTU-67727. We recognize that PacifiCorp complied with the BLM order to replug this hole on July 29, 1991. However, it is because of this noncompliance that the primary purpose of the meeting was to examine the plugging procedure employed by PacifiCorp for this hole and the 6 previous holes drilled during 1990 on Trail Mountain under exploration license UTU-66524. This objective was clearly stated in the notice of noncompliance.

The intended outcome of the meeting was that PacifiCorp would submit a proposed modification to their drilling plan, that includes details of the plugging procedure utilized for all the holes on Trail Mountain, and appropriate justification for deviating from the stipulations applied to the approved exploration licenses. Based on this submission, the BLM will determine what additional action is necessary to ensure the proper plugging of the 6 holes drilled under exploration license UTU-66524.

PacifiCorp's submission is a proposal to modify the BLM plugging procedures for the remaining holes drilled under exploration license UTU-67727 this year. It lacks any information on the plugging practices that were employed for hole TMTN-7 and the 6 holes (TMTN-1 trough TMTN-6) drilled under exploration license UTU-66524. Also, no rational is provided for deviating from the

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specified plugging procedure for these holes. Until the BLM has a chance to analyze the recently proposed plugging procedure, PacifiCorp will comply with the required drilling stipulations for exploration license UTU-67727.

In order to resolve this matter expeditiously, PacifiCorp must submit the deficient information discussed within 5 days of receipt of this letter unless grounds for granting an extension are provided. Otherwise, the BLM will take additional enforcement action.

If you have any questions, please contact Gary Johnson in the Price Coal Office at 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ GENE NODINE

District Manager

cc:
U-065c, Price Coal Office
U-921, Utah State Office
Manti La Sal National Forest
✓Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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