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United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
219 CENTRAL AVENUE, NW  
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102  
July 1, 1982

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SCAP Program  
COPY TO R-1

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JUL 13 1982

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RECEIVED

JUL 08 1982

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. James W. Smith, Jr.  
Coordinator of Mined Land Development  
State of Utah Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
4241 State Office Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is in response to your written request of June 9, 1982, seeking assistance from OSM regarding the Small Operator Assistance Program (SOAP). We are pleased to know that interest has been expressed in the Utah SOAP Program.

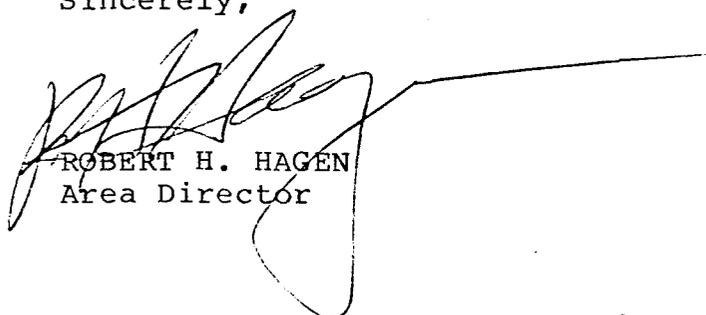
There are several steps involved in processing and evaluating a request for assistance. Enclosed are the following documents and forms which will guide you in completing the process: A copy of the directive on determining operator eligibility for SOAP assistance (OSM Form 24-1). We have modified a standard OSM SOAP letter for your consideration. A Small Operator Assistance Application form is also enclosed. The application form along with a copy of Utah's SOAP regulations should be sent to the applicant. You may choose to use the enclosed cover letter or you may elect to compose your own.

Once an operator has met the eligibility requirements, a statement of work is prepared and the request for proposed solicitation is issued to qualified laboratories. The state follows its own procurement procedures for awarding contracts. The OSM Area Office will, if necessary, assist the state in preparing the statement of work.

Our SOAP headquarter's staff informs us that the state will need to apply for a SOAP Operational Grant if it is to provide SOAP services. This grant pays for the collection and analysis of hydrologic and geologic data needed in the operator's permit application. These services are provided by a qualified laboratory under contract to the state regulatory authority. Well drilling or coring costs are not covered, however. Proper grant application forms are being included in case the state decides to apply for a SOAP Operational Grant.

If you have any questions regarding the SOAP process or need OSM Area Office assistance, please contact Frank Atencio at (505) 766-1489 or myself at (505) 766-1486.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Hagen', is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

ROBERT H. HAGEN  
Area Director

Enclosures