

**Snell & Wilmer**  
 L.L.P.  
 LAW OFFICES

15 West South Temple  
 Suite 1200  
 Gateway Tower West  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
 801.257.1900  
 801.257.1800 (Fax)  
 www.swlaw.com

Denise A. Dragoo  
 ddragoo@swlaw.com  
 (801) 257-1998

DENVER

LAS VEGAS

ORANGE COUNTY

PHOENIX

SALT LAKE CITY

TUCSON

May 27, 2008

Mr. Daron Haddock  
 Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
 1594 West North Temple  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

**RE: Alton Coal Development, LLC – Coal Hollow Mine, C/025/0005**

Dear Mr. Haddock:

On behalf of Alton Coal Development, LLC (“**Alton Coal**”), and in addition to the objection filed with Director John R. Baza on Friday, May 23, 2008, we continue to object to the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance’s (“**SUWA**’s”) untimely comments and request for informal conference on the pending Coal Hollow Mine Permit Application No. C/025/0005. The public comment period on the legal notice for the permit application ended on Friday, May 16, 2008. SUWA’s comments and request for an informal conference were stamped “*Received*” by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining (“**Division**”) on May 22, 2008. Pursuant to R645-300-123.100 and 130, SUWA must have submitted comments and sought the informal conference within the public comment period, i.e., no later than Friday, May 16, 2008.

We understand that, consistent with R645-300-121.300, the Division provides certain governmental agencies until May 22, 2008 to provide comment. However, SUWA is not one of these governmental agencies and should not be singled out by the Division as the only member of the public to receive special treatment by being allowed to file comments after the public comment period has closed. The Division does not have discretion to allow SUWA to submit untimely comments, to request an informal conference or to participate in an informal conference when its comments and request were untimely. R645-300-123.100 and .300 specifically provide that a request for an informal conference “will ... be filed with the Division no later than 30 days after the last publication of the newspaper advertisement required under R645-300-121.”

In sum, we request that the Division disregard SUWA’s untimely comments and requests. In the event that the Division holds an informal conference, SUWA should not be allowed to participate because they have failed to comply with the requirements of the Utah Coal Program. We appreciate your consideration in this matter. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Very truly yours,



Denise A. Dragoo

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MAY 28 2008

DIV OF OIL, GAS & MINING

DAD:jmc:8811849  
 cc: John R. Baza (via e-mail)  
 Chris McCourt (via e-mail)  
 Dana Dean (via e-mail)  
 Priscilla Burton (via e-mail)  
 Steve Alder, Esq. (via e-mail)