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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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February 14, 2017

Dr. Christopher W. Merritt
Deputy SHPO, Antiquities Section Coordinator
Utah Division of State History
300 South Rio Grande Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Subject: Cultural Resource Inventory Report U-16-HO-0742bp and Site 42KA6081, North Private Lease Area of the Coal Hollow Mine, Kane County, Utah.

Dear Dr. Merritt:

The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOG M) Coal Regulatory Program has received a cultural resources inventory report (U-16-HO-0742bp) that addresses outflow locations associated with detention ponds within the Alton Coal Hollow North Private Lease permit area. The inventory was conducted at the request of DOGM to ensure potential outflow along existing drainages would not inadvertently impact cultural resources downstream from the outflow points. A portion of this inventory covered lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and one previously recorded archaeological site was identified adjacent to one of the drainages into which the detention ponds drain.

Site 42KA6081 was first identified and recommended Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in a 2005 re-inventory report produced in association with environmental compliance efforts for the Coal Hollow Mine Project (Stavish 2008). At the time of initial recording, the site comprised approximately 50 lithic flakes; no features or temporally diagnostic artifacts were noted or identified at that time. Updated descriptions of the site included in the 2016 report note the site exhibits the same characteristics described in its first recording. After consultation with the BLM regarding site 42KA6081, it is the opinion of both DOGM and the BLM this site should be considered Not Eligible for the NRHP. It is a featureless site, lacking diagnostic association or diversity of artifacts, and subsurface testing at adjacent locations failed to identify any significant subsurface cultural deposits. The cultural resources inventory report and site recordation form have been updated to reflect this change requested by the agencies.

It is the recommendation of DOGM the Alton Coal Hollow Hydrologic Outflow project have a No Historic Properties Present or Affected determination, and that site 42KA6081 be considered Not Eligible for the NRHP. I ask for your review and comment with regard to the project effects and updated Eligibility recommendation for site 42KA6081. Please call me at 801-538-5325 or e-mail me at daronhaddock@utah.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Daron Haddock
Coal Program Manager

References Cited

Stavish, Patricia

2008 *Cultural Resource Inventory of Alton Coal Development's Project Area, Kane County, Utah*. Montgomery Archaeological Consultants, Inc. Report U-05-MQ-1568bp on file with Utah SHPO, Salt Lake City, Utah. (See also Report U-05-MQ-0346)

DH/jfm

Cc: Brit Betenson

Attachments: *A Cultural Resources Inventory of the Alton Coal North Private Lease Area Hydrologic Outflows, Kane County, Utah*; IMACS Update 42KA6081

