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Date: 10/30/03 7:54AM
Subject: Results of UEC suite against BLM

FYI--- Many of you have been interested in the results of yesterday's hearing on UEC's request for a temporary restraining order to stop SUFCO from mining underneath the perennial stream in the East Fork of Box Canyon. Here is a brief explanation of the results (As I understood them). Judge Benson denied UEC's motion for a preliminary injunction as to the 3rd left panel, but granted the motion for mining the 4th left panel. This means SUFCO will be allowed to proceed with mining the 3rd left panel, but cannot mine the 4th left panel until other things are decided. The judge suggested that the BLM and Forest Service work together to come to some mutually acceptable resolution of their differences. He did not say that the BLM would need to do an EA for this action, but suggested that it would be a good idea. It looks like UEC's suite is still going forward, but I believe the judge would prefer that all parties get together and settled their disagreements. Since mining in the 4th left panel will not be happening for another 10 months or so, there should be time for everyone to work things out on this part of the project. Judge Benson did indicate that he would impose a bond on UEC, but did not indicate what the amount would be. The mine had suggested \$53 million since that is the amount of loss they would incur if the TRO had been put in place. The Judge said that the bond would not be that amount. Stay tuned for further developments.