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September 15, 1990

State of Utah  
 Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
 355 West North Temple  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

DIVISION OF  
 OIL, GAS & MINING

*Pictures are in  
 INA/043/008*

Attn: Dianne R. Nielsen, Ph.D  
 Division Director

Re: Reclamation of Boyer Mine, Summit County  
Reclamation of Black Hawk Mine, Summit County

Dear Dianne,

The purpose of this letter is to address the reclamation of the property sites that the above referenced mine sites are situated upon. We are the surface owners of the Black Hawk Mine, and have our farm house located across the road from the Black Hawk Mine. As you already know, both mines are located directly across the Chalk Creek road from each other. This description of our house and the two mines form a triangle if plotted out. Our house is only 300-400 yards from the areas of disturbance with each mine. As you will note from any visual inspection, My Uncle Ward Morby, has a home there which is even closer.

Throughout the summer, we have been in contact with Joe Helfrich at the division trying to monitor the progression of any reclamation to these mine sites. Joe has been very helpful and informative to our questions. The problem we have, is that the Division of Mining needs to take a more aggressive approach to this problem.

Over the course of the last ten years we have written letters and made visits to your office, trying to get reclamation on the Black-Hawk Mine. We opposed permitting of the Boyer Mine because of the proximity of our homes to the actual mine site, (only 100-150 yards away from the site to Mr. Morby's house). Now both sites are vacant and un-reclaimed at this point, needing much clean-up and site work done before the winter sets in.

We request that you aggressively seek reclamation of the sites for many reasons. Not only are the sites a liability to all of us, but they are a dangerous situation for all who come into the area and decide to investigate.

This includes children as well as strangers. As you will note from the photographs we have included, there are still open mine shafts, piles of junk stored in dangerous ways, and potential cave-ins or sluffing of the current rock, soil, and coal pilings. The area does not meet the environment standards imposed for clean-up. It is repulsive to look at as we come and go from our houses. We also question the risk to our own health because of the toxins and dust created in the area.

The last time we talked to Joe Helfrich in August, we expressed our concerns also about all of the people who just stop, drive in to the area and trespass as they look around. Well, one of them just about caused our homes to be burned up several weeks ago when they ignited a fire by the entrance to the coal mine. The fire burned to within 50 feet of the one house before fire-fighters could contain it. We are fortunate that the fire wasn't started on the other side of the road. If those piles of coal would of caught fire and then entered the open shafts we would of had a real problem on our hands. This type of situation remains a constant threat in dry weather. Something needs to be done to secure the areas from outsiders and minimize these problems.

In conclusion, We request that you move as aggressively as possible to contain the problems at hand and restore the property to its original state. The bonds for reclamation have been in place for some time. We would be willing to meet with you or your representatives at the location if that would help to understand our plight in this matter.

Please notify us of your agenda to the above problems. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Gary Boyer

Stephen Boyer

Greg Boyer

Brent Boyer

Fern Boyer