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SEP 24 1990

September 15, 1990

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

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

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



Piles of coal residue and debris at  
Boyer Mine Site 8-01-90



Boyer Coal Mine looking toward  
Black Hawk Mine to the south.  
9-01-90



Evidence of an open shaft, one of three at the Boyer Mine site.  
9-01-90



Debris left around Boyer Mine  
9-01-90



Potential liability next to Chalk  
Creek Road 9-01-90



A real eye sore when exiting the  
houses. Boyer mine site 9-01-90



Exposed rock sluffing off at the  
Black Hawk Mine site 9-01-90



Old debris left at the Black-Hawk  
Mine 9-01-90



View of where fire started at Black Hawk Mine in August. Fire burned to within 50 ft. of house. 9-01-90



Deteriorating bridge at Black Hawk Mine site 9-01-90



Chalk Creek running through the  
Black Hawk Mine site. Reason for  
people entering the area. 9-01-90



Liability as well as eye-sore at  
the Black Hawk Mine. 9-01-90