S/021/026

March 30, 1998

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D. W. Hedberg
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Dear Wayne:

Mr Jim Fain has moved some equipment on site this week. He will be doing exploration and bulk sampling to determine the quality of gypsum in this part of Dry Creek Gypsum Mine Project (S-021-026).

The small box canyon (Dry Creek) is very restricted in room with limited top soil, but Jim Fain has leveled a working area and is stockpiling some soil for reclamation. I mapped the area and have on file a "pre-mining vegetative base." Last fall I ran a 900' base line on the 700 North Section to determine vertical plant shade. As you and I observed on your field trip of December 3, vegetative cover is very limited. At any rate, the 900' base, some few feet wide, indicated only 21% average cover (trees, brush, grass & rocks). The solid gypsum outcrop with no vegetation is good for mining but does not yield much soil for re-vegetation.

Thank you for your past help and interest. I would appreciate you continuing to please help Jim and I avoid any "pit falls."

York F. Jones
228 South 800 West
Cedar City, Utah 84720

cc Jim Fain
Department of Environmental Quality, 288 N 146 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84116
Chad Nay, Zoning Administrator, 88 E Fiddlers Canyon Rd.. Cedar City, UT 84720

Enclosure: 2 pictures

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