5/023/033

0002

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
HOUSE RANGE/WARM SPRINGS RESOURCE AREA
35 East 500 North
Fillmore, UT 84631

IN REPLY REFER TO:
3715
(U-054)
UTU-072898
UTU-072856

CERTIFIED MAIL # Z 432 442 587
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

May 29, 1998

ROBERT STEELE
1055 N 400 E
NEPHI UT 84648

Dear Mr. Steele:

On May 21, 1998, a field inspection at the site of your Notice case file UTU-072898 revealed that you have an unauthorized occupancy on mining claim UMC #354777 located in Section 5, T .12 S., R. 6 W.

43 CFR 3715 (copy enclosed) became effective on August 15, 1996. The regulation specifically addresses occupancies on mining claims and defines the steps a miner must take before setting up any permanent or semi-permanent facilities, or establishing a camp that would be on site for more than 14 days within any 90 day period.

The inspection revealed that you have placed a large water tank on site, along with a small crusher and other processing equipment. There are also two camp trailers that do not appear to have current registrations with the Utah Motor Vehicle Department, as well as another trailer with two fuel tanks on it.

Within 30 days of receipt of this letter, you must either remove all the items listed above, or submit to this office all the information described in §3715.3-2. You must also provide evidence of having obtained all necessary federal, state and local permits. This includes vehicle registrations, permits to transport flammable materials, water discharge permits, etc. Failure to remove the items or submit the information will result in the issuance of a Notice of Noncompliance.

Also enclosed is a staff report written by Sheri Wysong that documents her attempts to locate Western Strategic Minerals (WSM), a corporation to which you leased mining claims located near Keg Mountain. In the early and mid 1980s, the company filed several Notices which were ultimately assigned case file #UTU-072856. It then abandoned the project and left behind a

significant amount of unreclaimed disturbance. If WSM cannot be located and convinced to return to reclaim, we will consider you and the other claimants to be liable for the reclamation. During a phone conversation with you on September 23, 1996, Sheri agreed to look for people associated with the company, but as she had little luck, we suggest you continue the search.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (435)743-3100, or Sheri Wysong at (435)743-3125.

Sincerely,

Rex Rowley
ACTING Area Manager

Enclosures
43 CFR 3715
Staff Report

cc: Terry Steele, 296 N. Center, Santaquin, UT 84655
Wayne Hedberg, UDOGM (S/023/033)