5/027/057

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 2, 1999

Re: **Permit Fees for 1999, Sites Requesting Inspections, Minerals Reclamation Program**

Dear Permittee:

This is the second year for the implementation of annual permit fees which were originally authorized by the Utah State Legislature during the 1998 legislative session. The purpose of the fee collection is to provide funding for additional program assistance in processing and maintaining mining and exploration permit applications and for inspection of those sites. As a result of last years permit fee assessment, we have been able to hire one additional technical staff member for the Minerals Reclamation Program.

In addition to last years program funding, we also received nearly two hundred requests to perform exploration and mine site inspections to close out the active permits and suspended project files. We have inspected many of these sites and have subsequently closed many project files. Unfortunately, we have not completed all of the requested inspections to date.

We have received and processed your 1998 billing request form wherein you requested a temporary fee waiver and Division site inspection of the reclaimed project area. This waiver allows you to suspend payment of the annual permitting fee until we can perform a site inspection and confirm that adequate reclamation had been achieved.

It is our intention to perform an inspection of your project site by year's end (1999). You are hereby notified that if your project disturbance is not fully reclaimed and ready for release, you will be billed annual permitting fees for both 1998 and 1999. By rule, you will have 30 days from the date of the onsite inspection to pay the fee for both years.

In a number of inspections to date, we have found ***incomplete reclamation*** and the ***site could not be released*** as requested. *Please make certain that your site is fully reclaimed. All mining related waste, trash and debris must be removed from the site and the vegetation must meet the required revegetation performance standard (70% of the pre-exploration or pre-mining vegetation cover).*

Thank you for your patience and understanding while we complete all of the requested site inspections. If you have questions in this regard, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg

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Permit Supervisor
Minerals Reclamation Program

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