January 26, 1982

Memo to File:

RE: Chevron Resources Company
Vernal Operations
ACT/047/007
Uintah County, Utah

A meeting was held on January 19, 1982, to determine the Division's response to the environmental inadequacies in occurrence at Chevron Resources' Vernal Operations. Those in attendance included Jim Smith, Coordinator of Mined Land Development, Joe Helfrich, Field Supervisor, and Tom Portle, Reclamation Soils Specialist.

Major problems identified at this meeting based on previous field inspections of December 1 and 2, 1981, and September 29, 1981, included:

1. Topsoil handling procedures (particularly sidecasting of topsoil associated with recent and on-going expansion activities);

2. Stability of area near Brush Creek culvert;

3. Water monitoring in Crush Creek above and below the permit area;

4. Canyon fills associated with sagmill development (not covered by existing permit);

5. Lack of timely reclamation (at lease 25 acre/year should be reclaimed according to the terms of the approved permit);

6. Sediment loading of Brush Creek (buffer zone along Big Brush Gorge perimeters).

The Division awaits plans due in the 1st quarter of 1982. However, as indicated by Joe Helfrich (see December 4, 1981 memo) soil handling and sediment loading concerns should be addressed prior to any plan submittals or approval delays. It is important to note that due to the current status of activities it is necessary to "piece meal" these portions of the plan to avoid undue environmental degradation.

As a result of this meeting Jim Smith will send a letter addressing the following concerns:

1. Topsoil handling;

2. Riprap to afford stability in the area near the culvert in Brush Creek.

3. Water monitoring in Brush Creek.

4. Buffer zones to decrease the sediment loading in Brush Creek.

THOMAS L. PORTLE TLP
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

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cc: Jim Smith