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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Utah State Office
324 South State, Suite 301
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-2303

RECEIVED
MAR - 3 1995
DIV OF OIL, GAS & MINING

IN REPLY REFER TO:
3500
(UT-921)

March 2, 1995

Mr. Lyle W. Stott
State of Utah
Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870

Re: Approval of Bureau of Land Management Closure Methods
For the White River Oil Shale Mine Near Vernal, Utah

Dear Mr. Stott:

Enclosed for your review and approval is our report on the proposed method of closure of the White River Oil Shale mine Vernal, Utah, as discussed at the meeting held at the White River Oil Shale mine on November 15, 1995. The report covers the closure of the mine and protection of the aquifers. We would appreciate your response, along with the response of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, prior to March 15, 1995. That date is when we expect to send our solicitation to our contracting office in Denver, Colorado.

At the present time there appears to be no regulatory requirement for BLM to formally receive the approval of the Utah State Division of Water Quality or the Utah State Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining. We seek the approval in order to cooperate with the involved agencies. This approval would be required if the White River Oil Shale mine was under private ownership and the Federal leases were being handled by a single operator.

The BLM has made some minor changes to the closure plan as previously discussed at the meeting. They are as follows:

1. The shaft coverings have been reinforced to carry additional loading.

2. There is no fill material between the ventilation doors. There is approximately 35-40 feet of fill material in front of the first ventilation door. The doors will be welded shut.

3. There will be a fence placed around the 16-foot diameter shaft after the concrete seal is constructed.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation in this project. Your time and expertise was very helpful in concluding our design. We would also like to thank your laboratory personnel in helping with water sampling in the mine so data could be made available to finalize a method of closure.

At the current time, the solicitation is in draft form and is being reviewed internally. If you would like a copy of the solicitation or would like BLM to brief you on the contract with the engineering details, please contact Mr. Stan Perkes, at (801) 539-4036.

Sincerely,

Douglas M. Koza

Douglas M. Koza
Deputy State Director, Mineral Resources

cc: Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
(Attention: Mr. Wayne Hedberg)