Denison Mines has notified me of their intent to resume operations at the Canyon Uranium Mine on the Tusayan Ranger District. Operations at this mine have been in standby status since 1992 at the request of the operator. Based on this notification, I’ve reviewed the Plan of Operations, the environmental analysis and the decision for any changes in laws, policies or regulations that might require additional federal actions to be taken before operations resume. The mineral validity examination was completed April 18, 2012 and determined that Canyon Mine has valid existing rights.

I assigned an interdisciplinary team to conduct the review, and their findings are documented in the attached report. The report indicates that no new federal action subject to further NEPA analysis is required. The report identifies the need for further administrative actions related to Canyon Mine including tribal consultation and adaptive management measures related to wildlife issues. I intend to continue discussions with the tribes and schedule government-to-government consultation meetings on Red Butte Traditional Cultural Property as outlined in the report, and pursue coordination of further mitigation measures for wildlife concerns. These measures are not additional federal actions subject to further NEPA analysis but are continued implementation of the original decision which expressly provides for consultation and additional mitigation measures.

Based on this review, I, as the responsible official, have concluded that no modification or amendment to the existing Plan of Operation is necessary; that no correction, supplementation, or revision to the environmental document is required; and that operations at the Canyon Mine may continue as a result of no further federal authorization being required.

Please direct any questions on this matter to Liz Schuppert at 928/635-8367, or to me.

/s/ Michael R. Williams
MICHAEL R. WILLIAMS
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Liz M Schuppert, Nicholas Larson, Robert Cordts