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BILL OWENS
GOVERNOR

April 22, 2003

The Honorable Mike Leavitt
Governor
State of Utah
210 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mike:

I enjoyed visiting with you when you were in Denver. I hope your visit to the *Denver Post* went well - I thought the editorial was pretty good, considering its author.

Thanks also for telling me the other day about your work with Secretary Gale Norton on the RS-2477 issue. Our conversation was much too brief for any details to emerge, and I know some of them had not yet been resolved that day.

Now that I have had a chance to look at the agreement, I wanted to let you know that Colorado's requirements may be a bit different than those of Utah. While I understand that RS-2477 solves some long-standing disputes in Utah, several of its details are contrary to Colorado law in a number of areas. We have asked the Department of the Interior to work separately with us on a solution to these RS-2477 issues, and asked that the Utah agreement not be considered a precedent because it does not address some of our specific needs.

Thanks again for all your work on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Owens".

Bill Owens
Governor