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UTAH BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING RECOGNIZES INDUSTRY WHO EXCEED REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

Mining and oil and gas companies are expected to comply with strict environmental regulations and readily accept that responsibility. The Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining will honor six organizations that during the last year have gone well beyond those requirements. 2009 Earth Day Awards will be presented on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, in the Rio Tinto Regional Center, 4700 Daybreak Parkway, South Jordan, Utah. The ceremony will be held in the North America conference room beginning at 8:30 a.m.

“We began the Earth Day Award program in 1991 to recognize companies that go the extra mile in protecting the environment while developing natural resources,” explained Board Chairman Douglas Johnson. “These six organizations will join more than 90 others that have been singled out since our program began. The essential requirement for the award is the work must be performed voluntarily and not required as a condition of the operator’s permit.”

Three mines owned by Canyon Fuel Company will receive awards. They are Dugout Canyon, and Skyline mines in Carbon County and Sufco Mine in Sevier County. Dugout Canyon and Sufco mines accomplished wildlife habitat and water enhancement projects, while Skyline Mine improved a waste rock facility near the town of Scofield.

Another mining company, Simplot Phosphate in Uintah County, voluntarily donated time, equipment and materials, and worked closely with the Utah Department of Transportation to construct runaway truck ramps on Utah Highway 191 that runs through their property. Meanwhile, Rio Tinto/Kennecott Utah Copper and Kennecott Land will receive an award for their innovative post-mining land use at their Daybreak Community in Salt Lake County.

Sevier County, along with Jones and DeMille Engineering and JP Excavating, will receive an award for their site restoration of the Bull Claim Hill Rock Quarry. Rock from the quarry was used to repair damage to the Sevier River following flooding in 2005.

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