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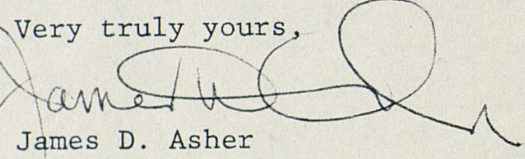
September 12, 1984

Mr. John Austin
Special Assistant U. S. Attorney
U. S. Department of the Interior
Post Office Box 15006
Knoxville, TN 37901

Re: United States of America
vs. Cesco Coal Company, Inc.
United States District Court
Civil Action No. 83-266

Dear Mr. Austin:

Please be advised that this office represents Earnest Cook of Whitesburg, Kentucky. Mr. Cook along with Mr. Columbus Sexton exclusively sold all their interest in CESCO to Billy G. Hatton and Billy Franks in approximately 1981. Mr. Hatton and Mr. Franks have the corporate records and the stock transfer ledger which would show the exact date. Mr. Cook has no personal information that would be helpful in the discovery procedures that you seek.

Very truly yours,

James D. Asher

JDA:rk

cc Clerk, United States District Court
Judge G. Wix Unthank