To: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING, COAL PROGRAM

From: GREGG GALECKI

Company: CANYON FUEL COMPANY, LLC

Date Received: 03/24/2005

Explanation:
Technical Evaluation Of OSM's Assistance To The Division With The Formal Evaluation And Acceptability Of A Ground Water Flow Model For Use In The PHC Determination (Skyline)

cc: C0070005 Internal File
Recently the OSM’s Western Region – Program Support Division provided technical assistance for the project or activity listed below. OSM would appreciate you taking the time to complete this evaluation. Your response will assist us in evaluating and improve our performance. We are collecting this information as a part of evaluating OSM’s performance of its responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act.

Project Name: Skyline Mine; Operated by Canyon Fuel Company

Assistance completed on: October 2004

Assistance provided by: Paul Clark

Type of assistance: [X] Permitting [ ] Inspection [ ] Enforcement [ ] Other (describe)

Paul Clark provided ongoing assistance to Utah Department of Oil Gas & Mining (DOGM) throughout FY04 and the first half of FY05. Assistance consisted of a formal evaluation and acceptability of a ground water flow model for use in the Probable Hydrologic Consequences (PHC) determination.

After OSM’s evaluation, the ground water flow model was found incomplete to support the PHC determination. OSM assisted Utah DOGM at a meeting with Canyon Fuel Company to identify modeling tasks necessary to support the PHC. During the first few months of FY05, OSM participated in several conference calls with Utah DOGM to reevaluate the conclusions in the modeling effort related to the PHC determination.

Was the assistance timely? Yes/No
Comments: Yes. Often with busy schedules, it is hard to coordinate meetings and develop a work plan. I tried to make Mr. Clark aware of the time frame to complete the project and internal deadlines, and he accommodated my scheduling as much as possible. Numerous times Mr. Clark took the information home and worked at night, on the weekend, and even while on annual leave to meet my deadline.

Was the assistance of high quality and professional? Yes/No
Comments: Yes. Through numerous meetings, Mr. Clark demonstrated and shared his knowledge as a numeric hydrologic modeler. He was patient in listening to my questions and articulating the direction of where he felt we could best use his expertise. His observations were timely, clear and concise.

Were your objectives for the assistance met? Yes/No
Comments: Yes. In a relatively short period of time, Mr. Clark was able to provide the foundation to adequately evaluate the numeric hydrologic model that was presented to DOGM. His guidance in ensuring that all the fundamental elements of the model were provided was critical. His written comments were also valuable in identifying the deficiencies that made the model a better product in the end. Working as a team, he not only provided the necessary assistance, he provided the fundamental tools necessary to adequately assess a model so I could evaluate the merit of future...
models by myself.

How would you rate the quality of assistance:     (Poor) 1  2  3  4  5  (Excellent)

Comments: Mr. Clark was able to provide assistance and understanding of a very complex technical report in layman’s terms. He was able to provide both assist and knowledge of a technical issue in a timely and professional manner. Mr. Clark was articulate, approachable, and accommodating. Personnel at DOGM should take every opportunity glean information and knowledge from Mr. Clark when appropriate.

Please return to: Office of Surface Mining –Western Region
Please send by email to hstrand@osmre.gov and rholbroo@osmre.gov

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