

0001

December 19, 1975

MEMO FOR FILING

Re: Valley Camp Coal Company
Belina No. 1 Mine
Sec. 30, T. 13 S., R. 7 E.
#43-007-001
Carbon County, Utah

The ownership patern on this mine is mixed. All coal being mined is Federal coal, that is, the surface facilities lie on fee acreage. The proposal involves underground mining from five entries and eventually it will produce approximately 2 million tons of coal per year. The shipment of the coal will be by railroad. The mine plan covers about 20 to 25 years of work (this includes getting in, out, and retrieving mining pillars).

The first seam will be mined by the fall of 1976, the second seam in the fall of 1977.

Generally 500 to 700 feet of overburden exist on the seams, with as much as 1,000 to 1,200 feet occurring in some locations. Thus, the prospects of strip mining are very slim. Eventually a conveyor system will carry the coal out to a rail load-out facility. This new load-out facility will be located at the rail head, near Valley Camp's present operation.

Before the field inspection, a meeting was held at Clear Creek. The meeting was presided over by Jim Travis of the U.S.G.S., and also present were; the Valley Camp Coal Company representatives, the private land owner, representatives of the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Utah Wildlife Resources, and myself, representing the Division. The fee surface owner, Mr. Oman, expressed his concern over the construction of an access road on his land. What Mr. Oman requests is the use of the timber cut on the road of Right-of-Way. Mr. Bob Steel of Valley Camp, assured Mr. Oman that his concerns will be addressed. The Utah Division of Forestry and Fire control will be notified that Valley Camp Coal Company has asked for assistance in harvesting the timber.

The environmental effects of the road should be checked again next spring, because in performing the cut on the hillsides, some debris has fallen into the stream in Eccles Canyon.

The drainage immediately below the facilities of the mine is ephemeral, but the stream channel has been piped with 42" steel pipe to enable a clean flow past the facilities. The surface facilities includes one building used as an office and bathhouse.

Planting on the area around the surface facilities and portals is necessary and possible since they are at an elevation of 9,000 to 9,200 feet. The mine portals will entrance onto the site holding the surface facility.

According to Mr. Bob Steel of Valley Camp, a new project Engineer will begin working on Belina No. 1 on January 1st, 1976. The notice of Intent, and reclamation plans will be filed with the Division shortly thereafter.

Possibly some experimental vegetation plots should be initiated on this site. The conditions are favorable for such an endeavor.

RONALD W. DANIELS
COORDINATOR OF MINED
LAND RECLAMATION

RWD/lc