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CONSULTANTS / ENGINEERS

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# VAUGHN HANSEN ASSOCIATES

RECEIVED

JAN 28 1980

January 25, 1980

WATERBURY PLAZA - SUITE A  
5620 SOUTH 1475 EAST  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84121  
(801) 272-5263

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Ms. Mary Ann Wright  
Reclamation Biologist  
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Re: Valley Camp Fish and Wildlife Studies

Dear Ms. Wright:

As requested in your letter of January 21, I am enclosing maps showing permit area and adjacent areas with the proposed and existing facilities and ownership to familiarize those concerned with the operation. This information has been taken from "Final Environmental Statement, Development of Coal Resources in Central Utah, Site Specific Analysis, Part 2". Following is a list of the attachments:

- Page BO-I-1 Description of Proposed Action
- BO-I-3 Index map showing Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., properties, Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah.
- BO-I-4 Surface ownership in Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., and Routt County Development, Ltd., proposed operations.
- BO-I-5 Subsurface (coal) ownership in Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., and Routt County Development, Ltd., proposed operations.
- BO-I-8 Proposed surface facilities of Belina mines in Whisky Gulch, sec. 30, T. 13 S., R. 7 E.
- BO-I-11 Proposed surface facilities of O'Connor mine in Boardinghouse Canyon.
- BO-I-13 Proposed surface facilities of O'Connor mine in Finn Canyon.
- BO-I-15 Powerline alignment for McKinnon, Belina, and O'Connor mines.

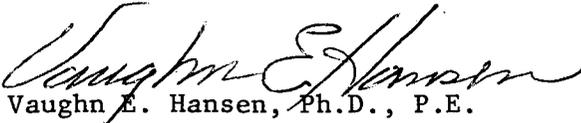
As indicated in our December letter to you, we need site-specific guidelines as soon as possible. Since the Valley Camp coal development is adjacent to the Coastal States coal development and is in the same drainage, the environment and impact should be very similar. For this reason, we are using the same consultants for both companies to prepare fish and wildlife and habitat information. Also Valley Camp and Coastal have agreed to exchange certain technical data. Thus much of the same data

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presented for Coastal will also be used for Valley Camp. For these reasons, I feel confident that the guidelines for Valley Camp will be essentially the same as those developed for Coastal States.

Please let me know what else we can do to clarify the intended development and to assist you. We appreciated your letter of January 21.

Sincerely,



Vaughn E. Hansen, Ph.D., P.E.

Enclosures: Descriptive material

cc: William Haynes  
Trevor Whiteside  
Glen Phillips

BELINA NO. 2 AND O'CONNOR MINES  
(PROPONENT: VALLEY CAMP OF UTAH, INC.)

CHAPTER I

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

A. INTRODUCTION

Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., submitted plans in 1976 for approval to mine 2.4 million tons of coal per year (mty) from two proposed underground mines on the same Federal leasehold (all or parts of Federal lease Nos. U-017354, U-067498, U-073120, U-020305, and U-044076) within the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The entire mining area covers 2,740 acres of Federal, private, and Carbon County lands (table 1). The purpose of this statement is to analyze environmental impacts that could result from approval of these mining plans. Future modification of the plans may require additional analysis. The complete mining and reclamation plan (MRP) is on file and available for public review in the office of the Area Mining Supervisor, USGS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mining operations of the Belina No. 2 and O'Connor mines would be integrated with the company's existing Belina No. 1 mine on the same leasehold. Environmental impacts have been assessed and Federal approval granted in February 1977 to mine coal from the Belina No. 1 mine.

The company also has submitted preliminary plans for transportation, utilities and other facilities that will be needed to implement the mining plans (table 1). All facilities would be on private land except for 0.1 mile of road in Boardinghouse Canyon.

B. PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed mines are located about 20 miles NW of Price and 4 miles SW of Scofield, Utah (fig. 1). Main access to the mines would be in Whisky Gulch, a side canyon off Eccles Canyon, and Boardinghouse Canyon. A personnel entry would be provided in Finn Canyon (fig. 2).

Three commercial coal beds on the leasehold are the Upper and Lower O'Connor and the McKinnon beds. Regional faulting has separated the beds into three mining areas; the Connelville block between the Connelville and O'Connor faults, the area west of the Connelville fault, and the area east of the O'Connor fault (fig. 2). Lease exchanges between Valley Camp of Utah, Inc. and Routt County Development Ltd. (McKinnon No. 1 and 2 mines described elsewhere in this document) have been negotiated to more efficiently recover the coal across the Connelville fault (fig. 3). Mining plans provide for mining the upper beds before lower bed recovery. Mining techniques are proposed that could result in maximum recovery of the coal resource in the thicker portions of the beds of the Belina No. 2 and O'Connor mines. About 12,000 tons of limestone would be needed each year to allay mine dust in the two mines.

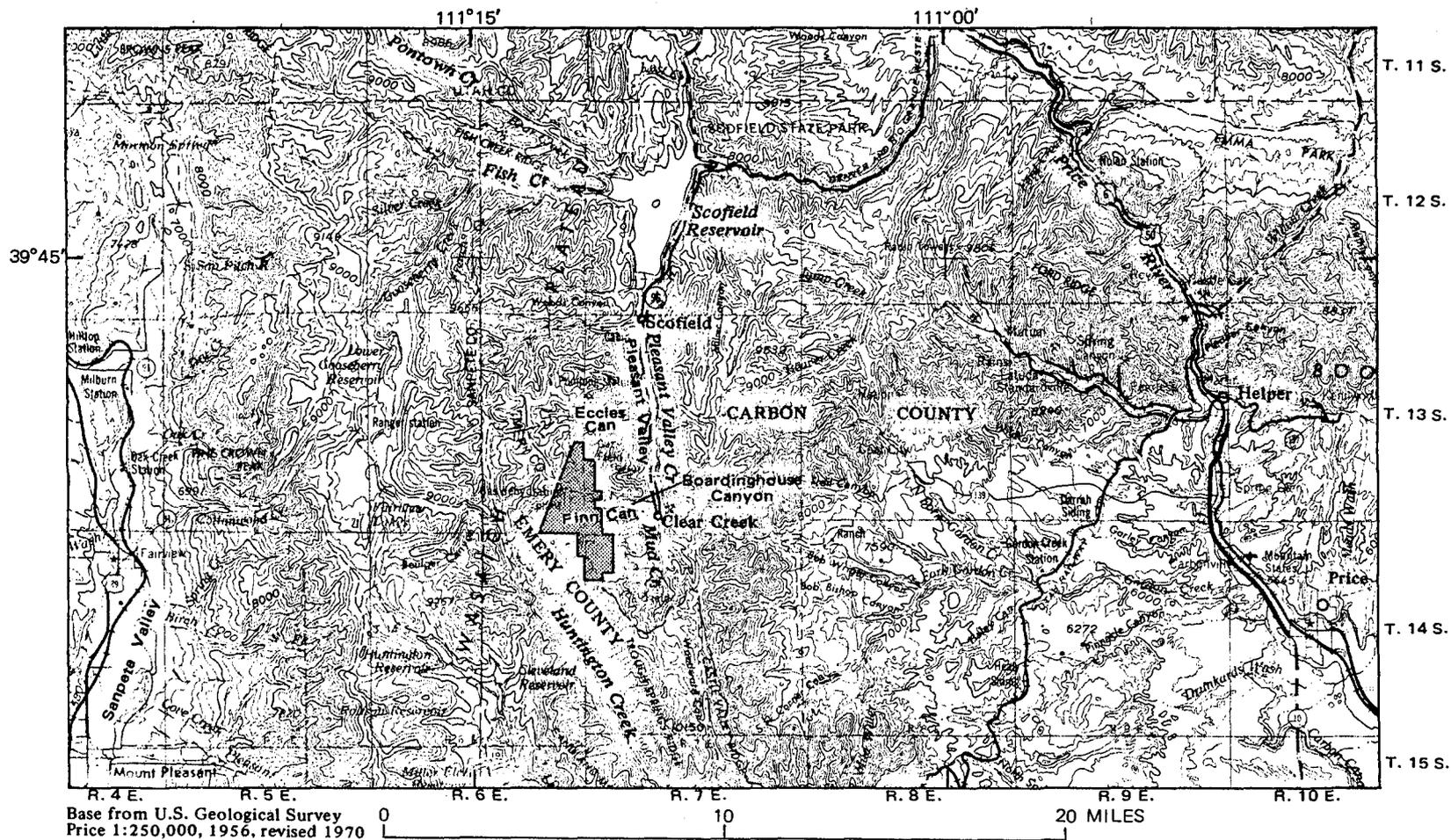


FIGURE 1.--Index map showing Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., properties, Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah.

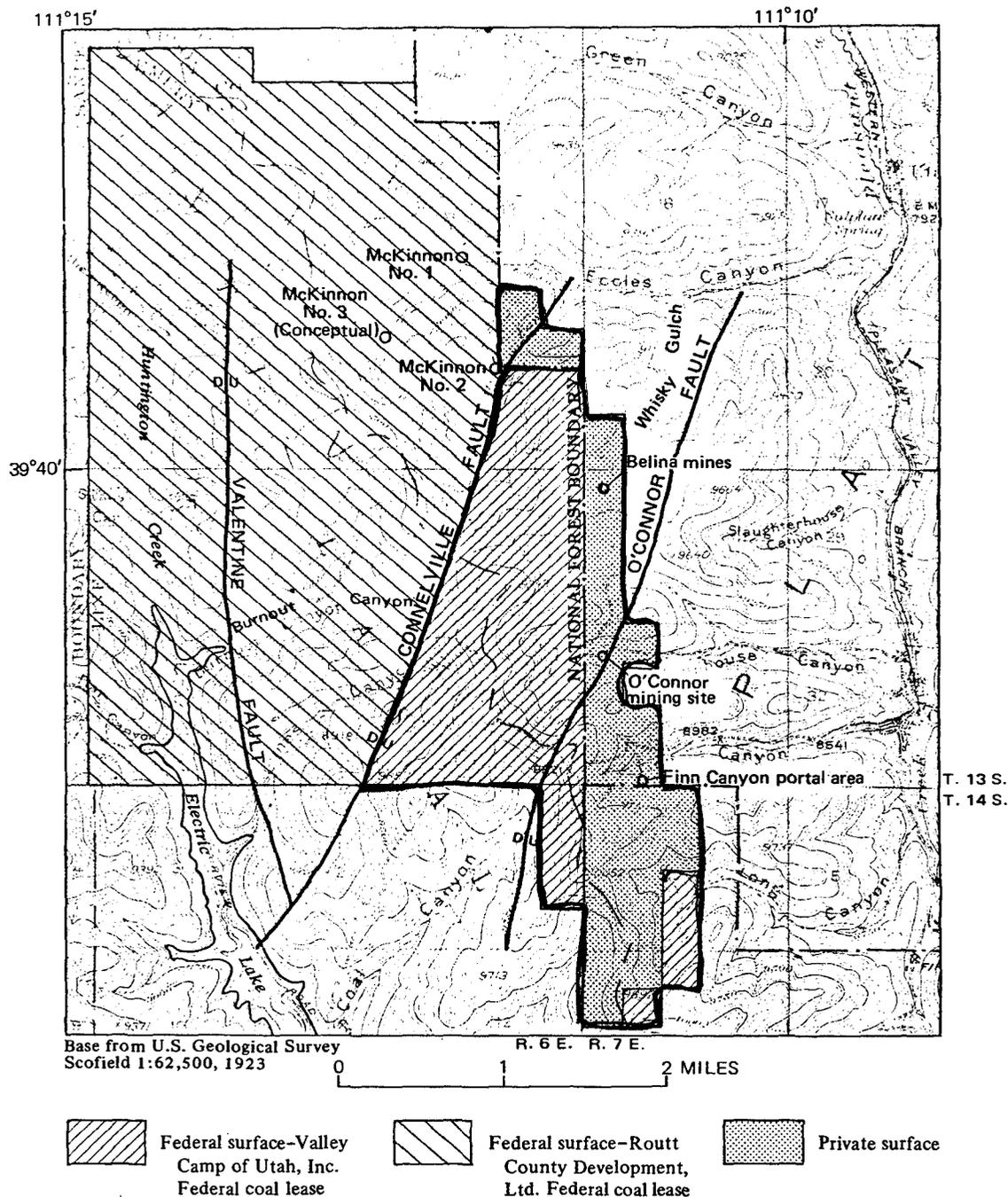
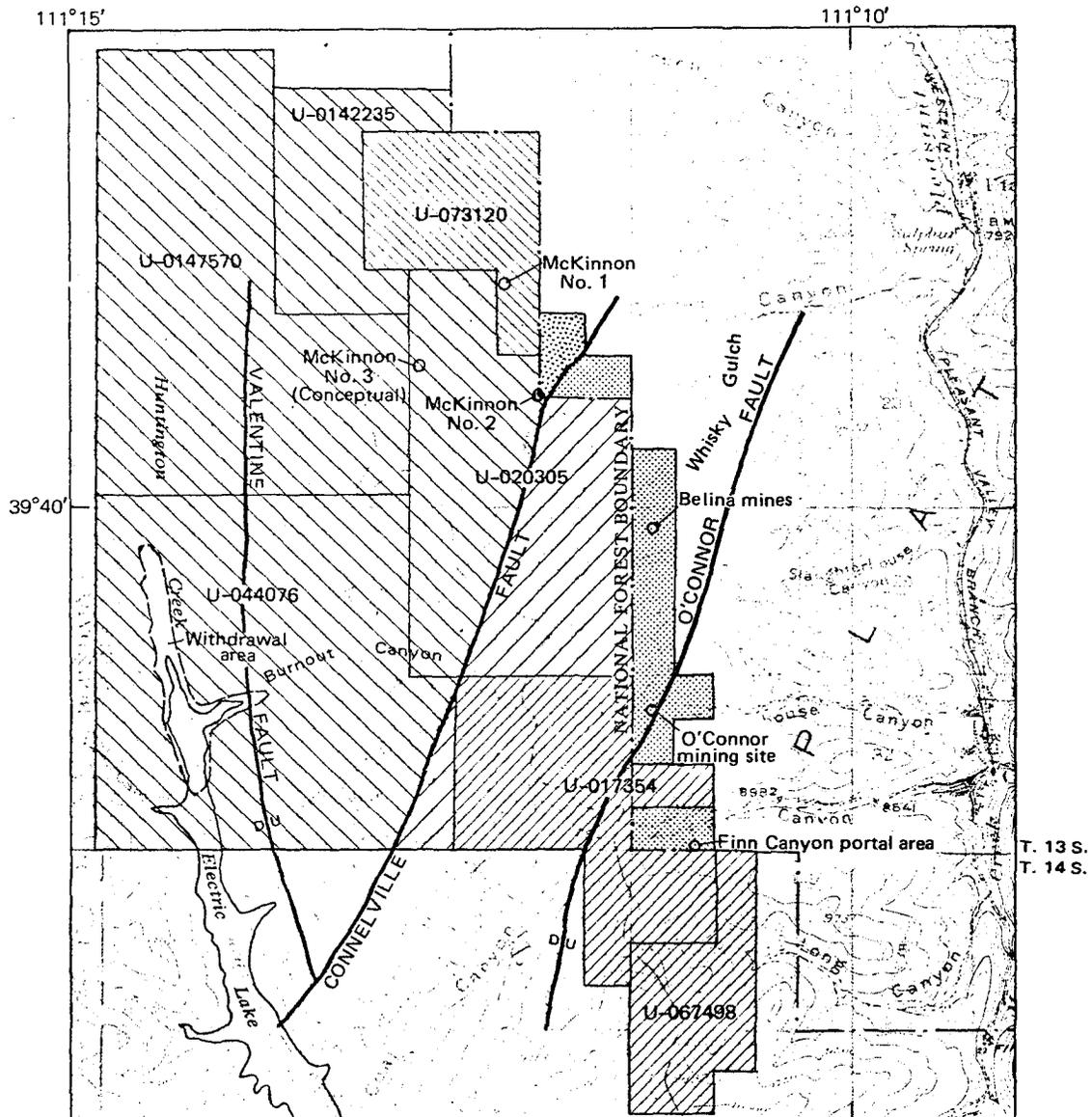


FIGURE 2.--Surface ownership in Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., and Routt County Development, Ltd., proposed operations.



Base from U.S. Geological Survey  
Scofield 1:62,500, 1923

R. 6 E. R. 7 E.  
0 1 2 MILES

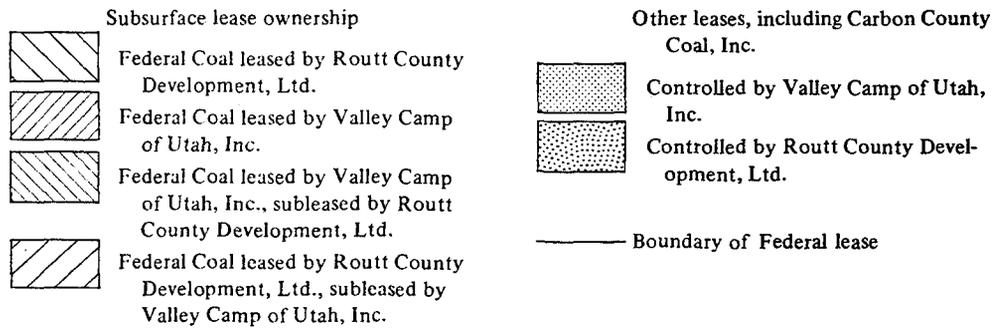


FIGURE 3.--Subsurface (coal) ownership in Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., and Routt County Development, Ltd., proposed operations.

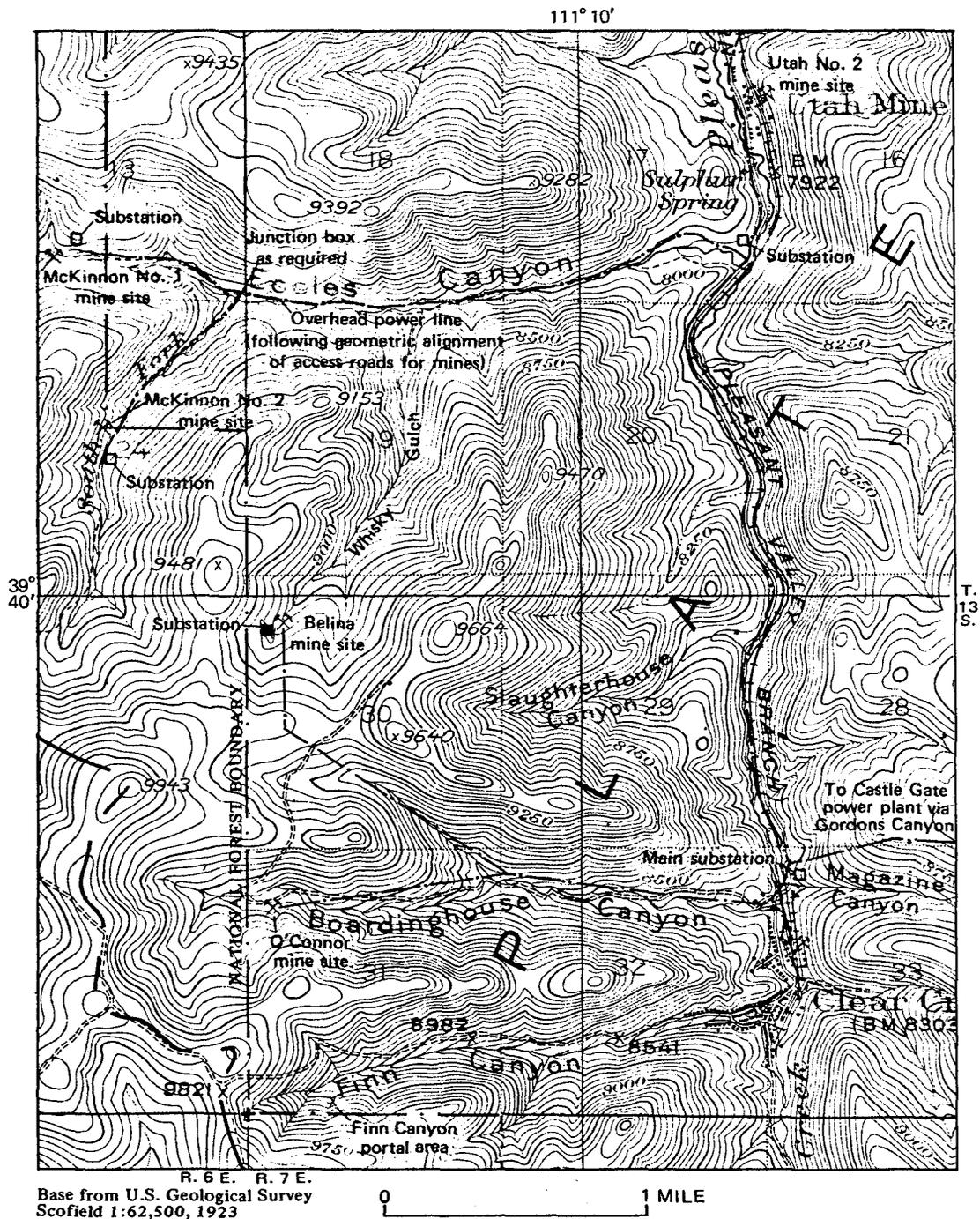


FIGURE 11.--Powerline alignment for McKinnon, Belina, and O'Connor mines.

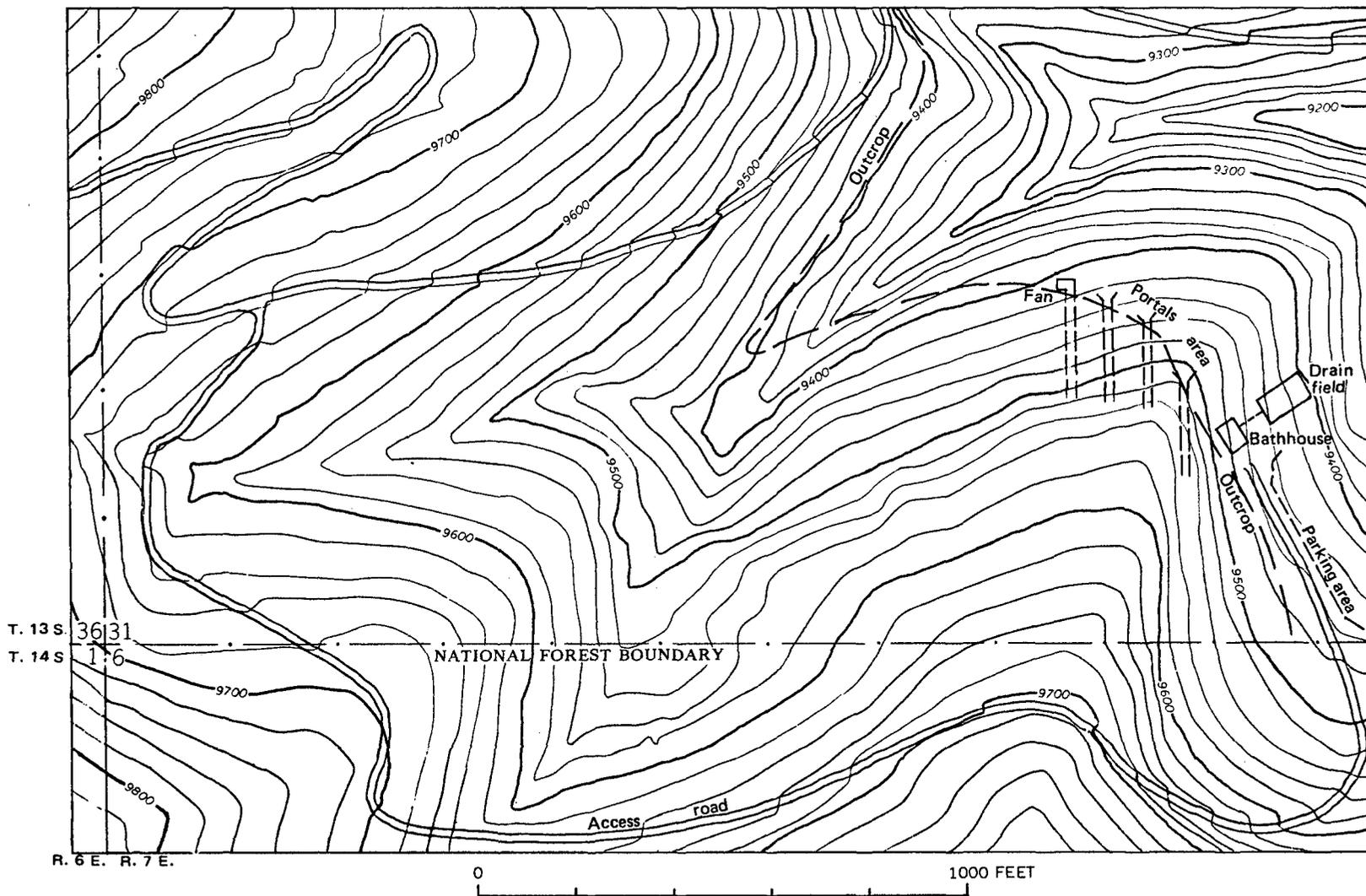


FIGURE 10.--Proposed surface facilities of O'Connor mine in Finn Canyon.

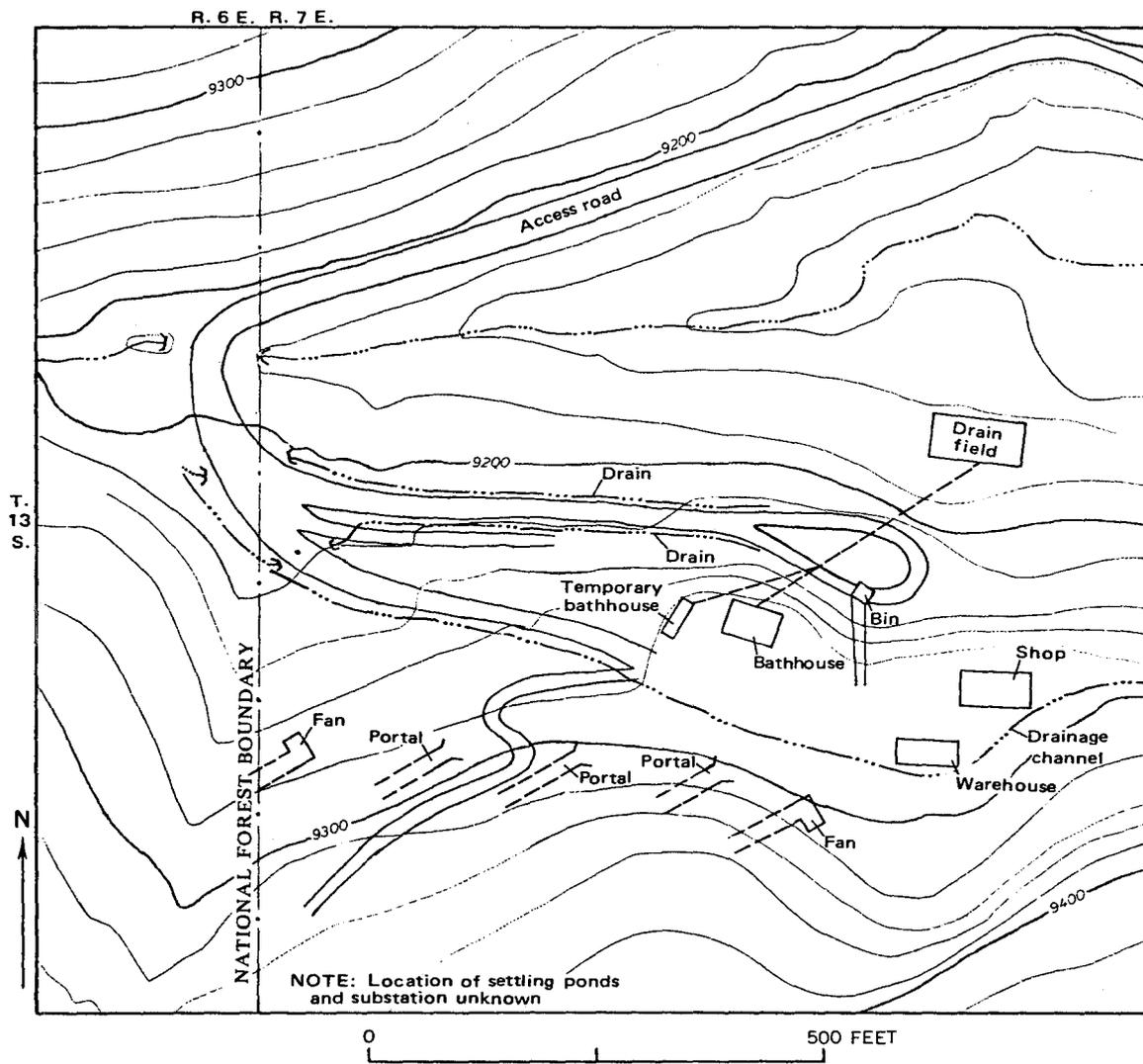


FIGURE 8.--Proposed surface facilities of O'Connor mine in Boardinghouse Canyon.

