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July 31, 1980

Mr. Trevor G. Whiteside
Senior Mining Engineer
Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.
P.O. Box 507
Clear Creek, Utah 84517

RE: Belina No. 1 Surface Area
and ~~Slope~~ Stabilization Plan
ACT/007/001

Dear Mr. Whiteside,

The plans submitted for the Belina No. 1 surface area have been reviewed by the Division and a more complete plan will be required. Valley Camp of Utah, Inc, (Valley Camp) is now approved to mine in accordance with a plan approved by the USGS. Within two months of approval of Utah's permanent program by OSM, Valley Camp must submit a mining plan application in accordance with the Coal Mining and Reclamation Permanent Program, Chapter I (Permanent Regulations). Approval of Utah's program could be as soon as September. The State of Utah has passed H.B. 138 (the Act). UCA 40-10-17 of the Act requires that any permit issued pursuant to the Act for coal mining operations will meet all applicable performance standards of the Act and other requirements as the Division shall promulgate. The Division has promulgated the permanent regulations and the plans submitted by Valley Camp must meet these requirements.

The application for Valley Camp's portal plans must at a minimum address the applicable information under the Permanent Regulations. The plan should be supplemented to incorporate the provisions of UMC 771.23. Information on environmental resources contained in UMC 783 should be addressed only as this information is applicable to construction of the cuts and fills or proposed new structures at the portal area. A map and description of existing facilities and topography should be included. A soils and vegetation map of this area is needed also.

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Part UMC 784, Requirements for Reclamation and the operation plans, should include a narrative discussion of the elements contained in UMC 784.11 and UMC 784.12. A reclamation plan for the proposed work including revegetation are required under UMC 784.13. Other portions of 784 should be addressed if applicable to the proposed portal area construction.

In the preparation of designs and the narrative discussions, it should be shown how the plans will conform to Part UMC 817, the Performance Standards. Abandonments, topsoil handling, surface water diversions, sediment control structures, sedimentation ponds, impoundments, use of explosives, disposal of underground development waste and excess spoil, protection of fish, wildlife, and related environmental values, backfilling and grading, revegetation, roads, and support facilities, should be addressed when these provisions of UMC 817 are applicable to the proposed disturbance or construction within the context of this plan.

Amendments to the permanent regulations have been made to conform to the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, as required by OSM. It is not known confidently whether OSM will approve these regulations as amended to date. The Permanent Program thus far, allows construction of portal pads and alternative to backfilling and grading to the original contours. The regulations (UMC 817.10(c)) permit construction of pads and require designs to comply with applicable design criteria contained for roads (817.150-817.180). Reclamation requirements for highwalls is contained in UMC 817.101.

All designs required for mass stability must be certified and prepared under the supervision of a qualified professional engineer registered in the State of Utah. The geotechnical information and analysis for the 1.5 safety factor should be included. The designs presented by Valley Camp thus far, are clear and of high standard. If the additional information is completed in with the same high standards, it will expedite the Divisions review.

OSM has been verbally informed of the contents of this letter and thus far concur with the Divisions review. OSM as well as the Division are available for a conference or phone calls to assist Valley Camp in expediting the surface area and slope stabilization plans. The Division acknowledges receipt of additional information submitted on the date of this letter and has not had an opportunity to review, please review this information in light of this letter.

Enclosed please find a copy of the Act, the Permanent Regulations and Amendments to date.

Yours Truly,



LELAND C. SPENCER
RECLAMATION ENGINEER

LCS/lml

CC: Don Crane, OSM; Denver
Enclosures.