



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
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4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

July 12, 1983

Mr. T. G. Whiteside  
Chief Engineer  
Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.  
Scofield Route  
Helper, Utah 84526

RE: Belina Minor  
Road Modification  
Valley Camp of Utah  
ACT/007/001, Folder No. 3  
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Whiteside:

The Division has received your letters of June 17, 27, 30, 1983 concerning issues which address requirements brought out in the Apparent Completeness Review (ACR) and the Minor Road Modification. While the two letters regarding the ACR have been forwarded to the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and the Division is awaiting their comment, the subject of the Road Modification Approval is still before us.

The June 20th conditional approval letter issued by the Division for the road modification contained three stipulations. Stipulation 5-17-83-1-EH has been sufficiently covered by your response. However, the remaining two are not adequately addressed:

Stipulation 6-17-83-1-RS

Twenty-five bales of straw mulch/acre is acceptable provided the minimum weight of 80 pounds per bale is specified (straw mulch should be applied at a minimum rate of 2,000 pounds/acre). Please verify that this will be achieved.

Also, how will the straw be anchored (i. e. crimped, chemical tackifier, etc.)?

How will "drier than usual moisture conditions" be identified? What is the anticipated rate (inches of water) and frequency of artificial irrigation?

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Stipulation 6-17-83-2-RS

Pursuant to the road being "permanent" the seed mix should meet the criteria of UMC 817.111-117. Please eliminate orchard grass for use along the road or provide criteria pursuant to UMC 817.112 to justify its use.

As per the seed mix submitted, the species are acceptable for temporary revegetation (i. e. the pond area). However, is "% of mixture" by weight or by number of seeds? Also, recent literature shows that "Thickspike Wheatgrass" and "Steambank Wheatgrass" are the same species.

To help insure that a diverse vegetation cover is achieved along the road (as per UMC 817.111(a)), it is suggested that the following changes be made:

1. delete orchard grass and Ladak Alfalfa,
2. add Western Yarrow, and Palmer Penstemon,
3. use the following rates:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Pounds PLS Per Acre</u>
<u>Grasses</u>	
Agropyron Dasystachyum - Thickspike Wheatgrass	3.0
Agropyron Smithii - Western Wheatgrass	4.0
Agropyron Trachycanlum - Slender Wheatgrass	3.0
Bromus Marginatus - Mountain Brome	5.0
Elymus Glancus - Blue Wildrye	1.5
Poa Pratensis - Kentucky Bluegrass	.2
*Dactylis Glomerata - Orchard Grass	1.0
	<u>17.7</u>
<u>Forbs</u>	
*Achellia Millifolium - Western Yarrow	.1
*Medicago Sativa - Ladak Alfalfa	1.0
Melilotus Officinalis	1.0
*Penstemon Palmeri - Palmer Reustemon	1.0
	<u>3.1</u>
<u>Shrubs</u>	
Artemisia Tridentate - Vasey Big Sagebrush	.3
Chrysothamnus Nauseosus - Rubber Rabbitbrush	1.0
Chrysothamnus Viscidiflorus - Douglas Rabbitbrush	.3
	<u>1.6</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22.4</b>

\*Use this rate if these species are used.

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Please address these remaining concerns so that a final unconditional approval may be issued. Again, if you have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



THOMAS N. TETTING  
ENGINEERING/GEOLOGIST

TT:gl

cc: Allen Klein, OSM  
Shannon Storrud  
Lynn Kunzler  
Sarah Branson, OSM