



United States Department of the Interior
 OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
 Reclamation and Enforcement
 BROOKS TOWERS
 1020 15TH STREET
 DENVER, COLORADO 80202

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DIVISION OF
 OIL, GAS & MINING

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Mr. Trevor Whiteside
 Chief Engineer
 Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.
 Helper, Utah 84526

Dear Mr. Whiteside:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our decision regarding the reclamation of the Belina haul road. The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) has determined that the haul road must be reclaimed in accordance with UMC 817.156, Roads: Class I Restoration. The reasons for this decision are as follows:

1. Throughout the past two years, OSM and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining have questioned Valley Camp's proposed reclamation and post mining land use plans. In addition, correspondence received from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicate that leaving the haul road intact after mining is not compatible with the proposed post mining land use, i.e. wildlife habitat and rangeland grazing. At the December 1, 1983 meeting with OSM and Valley Camp, you were informed of our concern regarding the stability and maintenance of the road; however, no alternative plans were submitted.

2. Valley Camp's current proposal to leave the as-built haul road as a permanent structure after mining is not consistent or compatible with the proposed post mining land use; therefore, OSM cannot make the necessary finding under UMC 786.19(m).

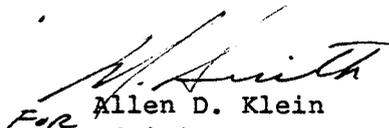
3. To date, there have been no commitments made by the private surface owners to maintain the road after mining ceases, as required by UMC 817.150 (1) and (2). OSM acknowledges that one surface owner, Mr. Milton A. Oman, has submitted comments favoring the proposed post mining land use; however, he questions the long-term stability of the road and has not provided a commitment to maintain the structure.

As you know, OSM is scheduled for a permit decision on March 6, 1984. We recognize that reclamation of the haul road will involve complex engineering and environmental considerations; however, the permitting schedule cannot be extended to allow for detailed plans to be developed and reviewed for compliance with UMC 817.156.

In order for OSM to make the finding regarding the feasibility of reclamation, (UMC 786.19(b)), it is necessary to assume that the road will be reclaimed in accordance with UMC 817.156. OSM will develop and include in the permit decision document, a bond estimate sufficient to cover the cost of reclaiming the haul road. After permit issuance, Valley Camp may choose to submit a revision to the permit consisting of an alternative plan for reclamation which would be compatible with the proposed or revised post mining land use. If Valley Camp's alternative plans are found to be acceptable, the bond can be adjusted accordingly.

This approach will allow OSM to make the necessary findings in accordance with the Utah State Program while allowing the applicant some flexibility in modifying the reclamation plan in the future. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Steve Manger or Sarah Bransom at (303) 837-3806.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Klein".

Allen D. Klein
Administrator
Western Technical Center

cc: Dianne Nielson, DOGM ✓
Robert Hagen, AFO