

MRP REVISION/NOV TRACKING FORM

Type of Proposal: X COAL NONCOAL

X Exploration < 250 Tons
 NOV/CO Abatement, NOV # , Abatement Deadline
 MRP Revision
 MRP Amendment

Issuing Inspector

Title of Proposal: Proposed Coal Exploration to Identify Igneous Dike location & Conditions.

Company name: Valley Camp of Utah Project/ Mine Name: Belma Mine?

File # (PRO/ACT): Acreage (Fed/State/Fee): / /
(CEP/EXP)

<u>Assigned Reviewers:</u>	<u>Review Time (hrs):</u>
(Hydrology) <u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Wildlife/Veg.) <u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Engineering) <u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Soils) <u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Geology) <u> </u>	<u> </u>

DATES:

- (a) Initial Plan Received *Hand delivered 1/15/85 from Walt Swain (OSM)*
- Tech Review Due *1/30/85 (if possible)*
- Tech Review Complete *done*
- (b) Operator Resubmission
- Tech Review Due
- Tech Review Complete
- (c) Conditional Approval
- Stipulations Due
- Stipulations Received
- Final Approval
- (d) NOV Termination
- (e) Bond Revision
- Amount (\$)

COMMENTS: This may have already occurred + our comment may be moot. Need to check w/ Ben +/or operator on this.

NOTE (INSPECTORS): Please attach a copy of the NOV issued to the abatement plan when received from the operator.

NOTE (REVIEWERS): Please prepare review comments in a format referencing the appropriate regulation or statute. State the deficiency as well as minimum requirement necessary to demonstrate compliance (when possible). Also fill in the number of hours spent in review by discipline. Return the revision/NOV abatement to the Special Permits Supervisor when review is complete.



United States Department of the Interior In Reply Refer To:

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Moab District
P. O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

OSM-3482
(U-017354)
(U-065)

175 JUN -3 11 8 55

DEC 31 1984

Memorandum

To: Mel Schilling, Office of Surface Mining

From: District Manager, Moab

Subject: Valley Camp of Utah Proposed Exploration

received 1/15/85
Comments to OSM ASAP
Att: Walt Swain

In accordance with current BLM policy, we are forwarding to your office for approval a proposal from Valley Camp of Utah to conduct coal exploration within their approved SMCRA permit area.

We apologize for the delay in forwarding this misdirected application to your office, but confusion involving the processing of such applications and the lack of specific regulatory guidance resulted in indecision on what action to take. We are in hopes that the Memorandum of Understanding currently being developed by our respective Washington offices will clarify the situation, but the interest of Valley Camp must be served in the interim.

We concur with Valley Camp's proposal and suggest that the following three stipulations be incorporated into the final approval:

1. Upon completion of down-hole procedures, all drill holes shall be cemented from the bottom of the hole to at least 50 feet above the highest minable coal bed or aquifer. The remainder of the hole may be filled with a gel rather than cement which meets or exceeds the following standards:
 - a. Ten-minute gel strength of 20 pounds/100 square feet.
 - b. Filtrate volume measuring 13.5cc on an API standard filter test.
 - c. A minimum marsh funnel viscosity of 50 seconds.
2. Completed drill holes shall be marked with a metal cap that depicts the hole number, the year drilled, the applicant's name, and brief legal description of site location. Marker shall be set in accordance with USFS Stipulation No. 29.
3. Copies of all in-hole mechanical or geophysical stratigraphic surveys or logs shall be submitted to the regulatory authority.

Upon receiving the drilling information from Valley Camp we would appreciate OSM sending a copy of the data to our office for the BLM's geologic inventory. We will assume responsibility for this information under the secondary office of control procedures.

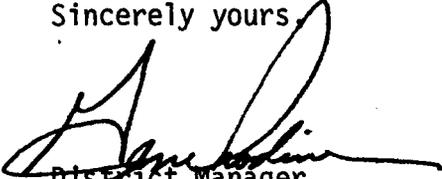
Also enclosed is the U.S. Forest Service environmental assessment for the project. The stipulations contained in Appendix C of that document should also be incorporated into your final decision.

As the approving agency, OSM is responsible for seeing that all conditions and stipulations of approval are complied with. Of particular concern to the BLM is ensuring that the drill holes are properly plugged as inadequate plugging represents a potential hazard to the coal resource and future mining operations.

Please contact our Price River Resource Area office before the final abandonment inspection for this project. We would like a representative of that office to verify compliance with the aforementioned BLM stipulations.

As a final note, we suggest that OSM prepare a notice to all Utah coal operators with approved SMCRA permits containing active operations, that details format, procedures, OSM points of contact, etc., for coal exploration within these areas. It is our experience that coal operators are not aware of these procedures and to avoid processing delays an informational bulletin of this nature would be most helpful.

Sincerely yours,



District Manager

Enclosures (2)
1-Valley Camp Application
2-USFS EA

cc:
Sid Vogelpohl, U-066 (w/o encl.)
Jack Moffitt, U-921 (w/o encl.)
W.H. Boley, USFS (w/o encl.)
K.C. Fenstermaker, Valley Camp of Utah (w/o encl.)

VALLEY CAMP OF UTAH, INC.

Scofield Route

Helper, Utah 84526

REC'D 1400 OCT 19 1984

August 9, 1984

Mr. Leon Berggren
Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management
P. O. Drawer AB
Price, UT 84501

SR/PR Rec'd AUG 13 1984

Dear Mr. Berggren:

Valley Camp of Utah is desirous of obtaining a permit to drill two (2) development drill holes on their Federal Coal Lease No. U-017554. The drill holes are to provide information requested by OSM concerning the effect of an expected igneous dike on the ground water in the Belina Mine area.

Both drill holes are within the boundary of the Manti-LaSal National Forest. They are located in Section 36, T13S, R6E (see map)..

The Valley Camp representative and field supervisor for this project will be:

Keith Fenstermaker
Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.
Scofield Route
Helper, UT 84526

All effort will be taken to minimize surface damage which includes the avoidance of endangered and threatened species, archaeological sites, surface improvements, cultural resources, and any other sites of particular concern to the regulatory authorities. Littering and the use of firearms will be prohibited.

An archaeological survey is being scheduled and the results will be forwarded to the BLM as soon as the survey is completed.

The travel requirements in regards to the drill holes will involve traveling local roads and trails to reach the project sites. Such traveling will be held to a minimum. The approximate road mileage for crews on forest service roads will approach 550 miles. A road use permit with the forest service will be applied for due to road use by the drill rig and water truck.

Mr. Leon Berggren
Page 2
August 9, 1984

A site inspection on the part of the regulatory authorities should be arranged through Keith Fenstermaker, Valley Camp's Field Supervisor.

A copy of the drill hole data and logs will be forwarded to the appropriate BLM office.

The drilling will entail rotary/core drilling of two (2) drill holes, each approximately 1000 feet deep. The contractor has not been selected. All contractors under consideration have worked extensively in this area.

The drill holes will be rotary drilled to a specified depth, at which point core samples will be taken. The holes will then be geophysically logged.

Surface disturbance for the two drill holes will be less than 1/4 acre each. Since both drill holes will be located adjacent to existing roads, no road building will be necessary.

The drill sites will be stripped of top soil, leveled and one (1) or two (2) mud pits dug. Top soil will be stockpiled for redistribution during reclamation. When drilling is completed the hole will be cemented as per BLM requirements. The mud pits will be dried and the site recontoured and reseeded.

The two (2) holes should be completed in approximately four (4) to six (6) weeks, depending on weather and drilling complications.

The noise caused will be limited to the running of equipment and audible for a few hundred feet.

Should you have any questions concerning this permit application, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

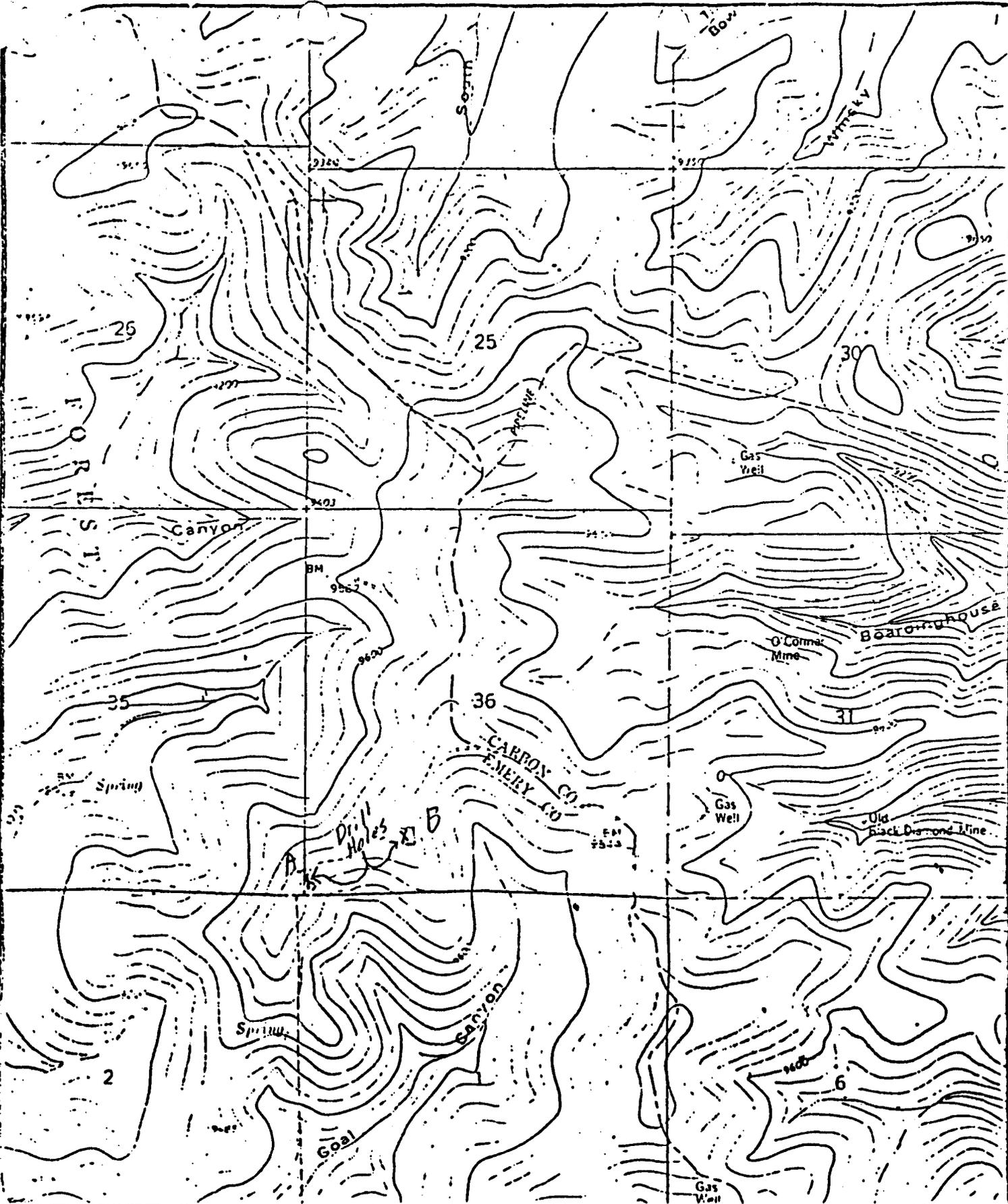
Very truly yours,



K. C. Fenstermaker
Geologist

KCF/lf

Enclosure



DRAWN BY:	DATE:
CHECKED BY:	DATE:
REVISED BY:	SCALE:
APPROVAL ENG.:	
APPROVAL SAFETY:	TITLE:



VALLEY CAMP of UTAH

SCOFIELD ROUTE

HELPER, UTAH 84526

DRAWING NO.
REV. NO.

REC'D MDO OCT 19 1984

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

DECISION NOTICE
AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

VALLEY CAMP COAL DRILLING PROGRAM
ON FEDERAL COAL LEASE U-UQ7354

Valley Camp of Utah, Inc. has submitted a proposal to conduct coal drilling on their Federal Coal Lease U-UQ7354 in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 36, T13S, R6E, SLM, Emery County, Utah. The two holes are designed to provide information on the effects that an expected igneous dike would have on the hydrologic regime in the Belina Mine area. The company's proposal (contained in Appendix A) fully describes the activities and location of the drilling program on the Price Ranger District, Manti-LaSal National Forest.

A Project Scoping Document (Appendix B) has been prepared that identifies at least eight previously approved NEPA documents that cover coal drilling in the subject area. No new issues and concerns have been identified for the current program. Drill Site A is located on an old site drilled in 1975 but is now a beat-out sheep bedding area. Drill site B is located on an old unreclaimed oil and gas pad site. Copies of the previous NEPA documents and other pertinent information are available at the Price Ranger District Office, Price, Utah.

Based on the analysis and evaluation described above, I have decided to approve the proposed action subject to the management requirements contained in Appendix C. Approval of the proposal is the only viable alternative under existing legislation and Forest Service policy and direction.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, a determination has also been made, through the environmental assessment process, that the proposed action will not create any significant impacts to the human environment. An Environmental Statement, therefore, will not be required. This determination was based on consideration of a number of factors that are discussed in greater detail in the Environmental Assessment. The primary considerations are as follows:

1. Approval of the proposed coal drilling survey will not be a major Federal action.
2. The proposed survey can be conducted within the constraints outlined by the land management planning process.
3. Adherence to the specified management requirements can eliminate any significant residual impacts that could result from the project.

4. The proposed survey will not impact any identified prime range, farm or timber lands; wetlands or floodplains; alluvial valley floors; cultural or paleontological resources; or threatened or endangered plant and animal species.

5. Coal exploration is and has historically been an integral part of the local economy and lifestyle.

Implementation may take place immediately after approval. This decision is subject to administrative review (appeal) pursuant to 36 CFR 211.18.

Responsible Official:

Paul C. Christman
Forest Supervisor

10/15/84
Date

TITLE 1900 - PLANNING

EXHIBIT B

PROJECT SCOPING DOCUMENT

Date 9/12/84 District Name PRICE File Code 2820

Environmental Assessment

- 1. Project Name VALLEY CAMP'S COAL DRILLING, SEC 36
- 2. Responsible Official REED CHRISTIANSEN

3. Proposal (Who, What, Why, Where, How) VALLEY CAMP PROPOSES TO DRILL TWO DEVELOPMENT COAL HOLES ON THEIR FEDERAL COAL LEASE U-017354 IN SEC. 36, T. 13S., R. 6E., S11 (SEE MAP) TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY OSM CONCERNING THE EFFECTS OF AN EXPECTED IGNEOUS DIKE ON THE EDWARD H. CO IN THE PELINA MOUNTAIN.

4. Tiering Opportunities ^① E.I.R., KANAWHA MOUNTAIN COAL DRILLING, 11/5/73; ^② E.I.R. COK CREEK DEVL COOP, SUMMER '74 DRILLING PROGRAM, 7/2/74; ^③ APPENDIX TO THE 72 FEA, SANDERS ASSOC, 9/3/75; ^④ 3rd APPENDIX, 4/16/76; SUP. F.S. S/S/76; ^⑤ 2nd F.S. SUP. EA, 8/24/76; ^⑥ 3rd APPENDIX TO FEA, 4/8/77; ^⑦ 4th APP. 4/15/77; SUP F.S. EA 7/12/77;

5. Other Agencies Involved THE BLM WILL ISSUE FINAL APPROVAL FOR THE PROJECT.

6. Effects on the Environment. NO NEW ADVERSE EFFECTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT ARE EXPECTED. ONE OF THE HOLES IS LOCATED ON AN ABANDONED COAL DRILLING PAT W/ PIT; THE OTHER IS LOCATED ABOUT 1/4 MILE FURTHER SW ON THE SAME RIDGE IN A BARE BEAT OUT SHEEP BERMING AREA ADJACENT TO THE ROAD.

Issues & Concerns	Networks	Reaction to Project
<u>NO NEW ISSUES AND CONCERNS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BEYOND THOSE IDENTIFIED IN THE TIERING DOCUMENTS</u>		

TITLE 1900 - PLANNING

8. Suggested Alternatives NO ACTION - NOT CONSIDERED VIABLE AS THE PROPOSAL IS CONSISTENT WITH ALL PREVIOUS MGMT GUIDELINES & DIRECTIONS FROM THE TIERING DOCUMENTS & THE F/R LMPY EIS

9. Analysis and Decision Criteria AS IDENTIFIED IN THE EIGHT EXISTING TIERING DOCUMENTS AND IN THE FERRO-PRICE LMPY EIS, 1979.

10. Analysis Skills:

Specialty	Specialist	Team Member	Consultant
<u>DISTRICT RANGER</u>	<u>IRA W. HATCH</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>DISTRICT GEOLOGIST</u>	<u>WALT NOWAK</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>GEOLOGIST</u>	<u>JO ELLIS</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>X</u>
<u>RANGE CONSERVATION</u>	<u>LELAND MATHESON</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>_____</u>

11. Schedule:

- a. Functional Status Report: _____
- b. Initial Meeting: _____
- c. Field Review: 9/26/84
- d. ID Team Meeting: 9/26/84
- e. ID Team Review Draft: _____
- f. Review Draft Meeting: _____
- g. EA Draft: 9/28/84
- h. DFR Decision Notice: _____
- i. S.O. Decision Notice: _____
- j. Project Implementation: 10/84

12. Ranger Decision: Requires Further Assessment Categorical Exclusion _____
Irwin Hatch MINIMAL EA & MONS!
 District Ranger Date 9/14/84

APPENDIX C

Management Requirements

Stipulations to be Included in the Coal Drilling Permit

1. A pre-work meeting including the responsible company representative(s) contractors, and the Forest Service must be conducted at the project location prior to commencement of operations. The following site-specific Forest Service requirements will be discussed at this time.
2. A Road-Use Permit must be obtained from the Forest Service before equipment is transported onto National Forest System lands.
3. All surface disturbing activities including reclamation must be supervised by a responsible representative of the licensee who is aware of the terms and conditions of the project permits and licenses. A copy of the appropriate permits and licenses must be available for review at the project sites and presented upon demand to any Forest Service officer.
4. The Forest Service must be notified 48 hours in advance that heavy equipment will be moved onto National Forest System lands and that surface disturbing activities will commence.
5. Establishment of campsites and staging area on National Forest System lands in support of this project is subject to Forest Service approval.
6. The Forest Service must be notified of any proposed alterations to the plan of operations. Any changes to the existing plan are subject to Forest Service review and concurrence.
7. Fire suppression equipment must be available to all personnel working at the project site. Equipment must include at least one hand tool per crew member consisting of shovels and pulaskis and one properly rated fire extinguisher per vehicle and/or other internal combustion engine.
8. All gasoline, diesel and steam-powered equipment must be equipped with effective spark arresters and mufflers. Spark arresters must meet Forest Service specifications discussed in the USDA Forest Service Spark Arrester Guide, June 1981. In addition all electrical equipment must be properly insulated to prevent sparks.
9. The licensee will be held responsible for damage and suppression costs for fires started as a result of operations. Fires must be reported to the Forest Service as soon as possible.
10. The Forest Service reserves the right to suspend operations during periods of high fire potential.
11. Water needed in support of operations must be properly and legally obtained according to State Water Laws. The location of diversion, if on National Forest System lands, is subject to Forest Service review and approval.

12. Unauthorized off-road vehicular travel is prohibited.
13. Section corners or other survey markers, including claim corners, in the project area must be located and flagged for preservation prior to commencement of surface disturbing activities. The removal, displacement or disturbance of markers must be approved by the proper authority.
14. If cultural or paleontological resources are discovered during operations, all operations which may result in disturbance to the resource must cease and the Forest Service must be notified of the discovery.
15. Temporary access roads will be reclaimed and blocked to vehicle traffic as directed by the Forest officer in charge.
16. Drill pads will be designed to prevent or diminish overland water flow from entering the site during precipitation events. Pad sites will be sloped to drain all spills and on-site precipitation into the mud pits. Mud pits shall be designed to contain all cuttings, drilling fluids, groundwater flows, spills and precipitation. If necessary pits will be pumped out to reduce their content and insure that overflow does not occur. The pits must not be used for disposal of garbage, trash or other refuse.
17. Drill pads and other disturbed areas will be reseeded with the following seed mixture broadcast at a rate of 15 lbs per acre:
 - 30 Orchard grass
 - 20% Smooth Brome
 - 20% Intermediate Wheatgrass
 - 20% Timothy
 - 10% Ladak alfalfa

Certified to have a minimum of 80% PLS and a maximum of 1% weeds (Non-noxious).
18. Both sites will be fenced with sheep netting and signed, after seeding, to prevent livestock and human use from impairing site reclamation. Fences will be maintained by Valley Camp until reclamation is complete and the sites are released by the Forest Service.
19. Reclamation efforts will be diligently pursued to insure that a minimum of 30% ground cover is established on all disturbed areas by the end of the first subsequent growing season.
20. If any of the drill holes encounters artesian groundwater, the District Ranger must be notified prior to plugging the hole to determine whether or not the Forest Service would elect to establish a permanent water development at the site.

21. Valley Camp will be held responsible for all damages to fences, cattle-guards, resource improvements, road and other structures on National Forest System lands which result from operations. The Forest Service must be notified of damages as soon as possible.
22. All heavy brush must be cleared as the first step for new access and site construction. Topsoil must be stripped from areas requiring surface disturbance and stockpiled at a location where loss and contamination is minimized.
23. Disturbed areas must be reclaimed by the end of the field season. Exceptions require Forest Service approval.
24. Contaminated soil and gravel must be stripped and placed in the mud pit prior to site reclamation.
25. Mud pits must be allowed to dry before they are backfilled and reclaimed. They must be enclosed by one-strand barbed wire and sheep netting fence while they are left to dry.
26. When dry, mud pits must be reclaimed by selectively backfilling excavated materials such that the disturbed area is replaced to the approximate original contour. The disturbed area must be seeded with the specified seed mix when topsoil is evenly replaced and the seedbed prepared.
27. Roads to be obliterated must be reclaimed by ripping the surface, replacing the disturbed area to the approximate original contour, replacing stockpiled topsoil and seeding with the specified seed mix. Seeding must take place when topsoil is replaced and the seedbed is prepared. Water diversion structures if needed must be constructed as specified by the Forest Service.
28. The operator must clean up and remove all drilling equipment, trash, garbage, flagging, vehicles and other such materials from National Forest System lands. All trash, garbage and other refuse must be properly contained on the project site prior to disposal off-Forest.
29. All drill holes must be plugged in accordance with Federal and State regulations. Any drill site monuments that are required will be placed flush to the reclaimed pad site surface.
30. Harassment of wildlife and livestock is prohibited.

Stipulations to be Included in Road-Use Permits

1. Roads must not be used when they are wet and susceptible to damage.
2. The permittee is responsible for repair or damages to roads which are caused by his operations.
3. All traffic must maintain safe speeds commensurate with existing conditions.
4. Roads must be watered if dust becomes a problem or if excessive loss of road material occurs.
5. Heavy equipment may not be transported along Forest roads, during holiday weekends and the opening weekend of the regular big game hunting seasons.