



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MININGNorman H. Bangert
GovernorDee C. Hansen
Executive DirectorDianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Division Director355 West North Temple
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Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

July 1, 1988

Mr. Barry Barnum
Valley Camp Coal Company, Inc.
Scotfield Route
Helper, Utah 84526

Dear Mr. Barnum:

Re: Subsidence Monitoring, Belina Mine Complex, Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., ACT/007/001, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) has recently evaluated Valley Camp of Utah's subsidence monitoring program in lieu of a decision by the U. S. Forest Service to cancel their photogrametric subsidence monitoring program.

Valley Camp's Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP) expresses reliance on the Forest Service's photogrametric subsidence monitoring program to supply subsidence data and information for areas above the mine site.

To maintain compliance with the regulations governing protection of renewable resources from subsidence, Valley Camp will be required to implement a subsidence monitoring program to detect vertical and horizontal ground movement which may result from coal extraction and dewatering.

The DOGM must require Valley Camp to implement a subsidence monitoring program over their mine permit area that will supply the information and data necessary to detect surface movement. Valley Camp should submit a commitment to initiate a subsidence monitoring program within 15 days of receipt of this letter. DOGM will require that subsidence control stations be placed over fee and federal properties where mining has taken place during the past two years to detect the effects of mining in those areas. Valley Camp will also be required to implement subsidence surveys over and adjacent to those areas that will be mined in the future. DOGM must require that baseline information be obtained for these areas by September 30, 1988.

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Valley Camp should submit maps that show the area and sequence mined during the past two years, areas and sequence of mining for the rest of the 5-year permit term for each seam and the location of all proposed subsidence control stations. Subsidence monitoring plans should be submitted for DOGM review prior to conducting surveys so that we may review the plans and respond if necessary. This means that Valley Camp will have to begin working on the subsidence monitoring program very soon to meet the September 30, 1988 schedule.

We regret that the photogrametric subsidence monitoring program conducted by the U. S. Forest Service did not establish the planimetric information needed to assess surface configurations at your minesite, although we feel that the concept was good. If you have any questions regarding the U. S. Forest Service's photogrametric subsidence monitoring program, we suggest you contact Carter Reed at the Manti-LaSal National Forest, Price Utah.

If you have any other questions pertaining to this matter please, feel free to contact David Darby.

Sincerely,


Susan C. Linner
Reclamation Biologist/
Permit Supervisor

DD/as
cc: R. Hagen
R. Summers
G. Morris
1299R/96-97