



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangerter  
Governor  
Dee C. Hansen  
Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

August 7, 1992

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *Reviewed 8/10/92 DAZ*

FROM: *DB* Priscilla Burton, Soils Reclamation Specialist

RE: Meetings Summary. Mid-Term Permit Review Deficiencies.  
Belina Complex. Valley Camp of Utah, Inc. ACT/007/001.  
Folder #2. Carbon County. Utah.

## SUMMARY:

On Wednesday (8/5/92), Steve Tanner of Valley Camp; Dave Hansen of Hansen, Allen, and Luce; and Jim Smith, Rick Summers, Sharon Falvey and Priscilla Burton of the Division met to discuss the Technical Deficiency items associated with Alluvial Valley Floor regulations.

On Thursday (8/6/92) Priscilla Burton met with Mr. Tanner at Valley Camp to discuss changes in the soil redistribution and reclamation plan and to briefly survey the contemporaneously reclaimed slopes of Belina and ValCam Loadout. Appropriate responses to each deficiency of the Soils section of the Technical Deficiency Review were discussed.

## DISCUSSION:

Discussion of R645-302-321 1992 TDR deficiency requests produced the following plan of action:

### Item #1

Groundwater information on spring flows and well depths and water yielding strata for the Valcam Loadout would be obtained from information available at the site and the State Division of Water Rights. The deficiency remains as written.

### Item #2

The historical flood irrigation of lands occurred in the vicinity of the town of Scofield at a distance which is not adjacent to the Valcam Loadout. (Mr. Tanner felt that "adjacent" means within 1/4 mile distance.) The diversions which are in

Page 2  
ACT/007/001  
August 7, 1992

place approximately 750' from the permit boundary are relatively new installations.

Mr. Tanner agreed to provide a narrative statement regarding the historic use of the lands, rather than a map which was requested in the original deficiency request.

Mrs. Burton agreed to research the 1/4 mile standard of adjacency and all previous correspondence on the issue after the 1990 stipulations were written.

Item #3

Mr. Smith stated that the response to this deficiency would correlate well with his request for a seep and spring inventory of the Valcam Loadout area. The deficiency remains as written.

Mrs. Burton suggested that the SCS should be contacted to provide on-sight, Order 1 survey evaluation of soil moisture measurements and mottling characteristics; rooting depth and water requirements of the vegetation within the permit and adjacent areas. The deficiency remains as written.

Item #4

Mr. Tanner indicated that there is a 1973 aerial photo of the pre-SMCRA disturbance, but the scale is quite large. Mr. Tanner indicated that there were two old portals at the site (Gibson portal and Utah #1 mine); that post 1977 disturbance included construction of Pond 002 in the flood plain and diversion of the stream under the highway. Mr. Tanner stated that Map 521.124 shows enough of the original flood plain for reconstruction of the channel during final reclamation. Mr. Tanner also argued that Valley Camp was accepting responsibility for reclamation of the entire disturbed area, therefore a pre-SMCRA map should not be required.

Representatives from the Division maintained that a pre-SMCRA map was required for compliance with R645-301-142 and for identification of the pre-SMCRA coal mining activity at the ValCam Loadout with particular regard to R645-302-323.110; 323.111; and 323.112 (identification of significant coal mining activity within an AVF prior to 1977).

The deficiency remains as written.

Discussions at the Mine site revealed the following proposed changes to the Soils Section of the MRP

Page 3  
ACT/007/001  
August 7, 1992

An proposed amended plan for identification of appropriate substitute topsoil material is to survey the existing contemporaneously reclaimed slopes at Belina and Valcam for diversity, cover, rooting depth and soil characteristics. Native soils would also be surveyed immediately adjacent to the disturbed area to provide a comparison for suitability characteristics. (Total number of soil samples and parameters of soils to be analyzed were not discussed. A telephone discussion will likely follow.)

A revised soil survey map of the surface disturbance would be produced (RE: Deficiencies #1, #2 of R645-301-223).

Existing information on the disturbed soils of the area would be provided in the MRP or Appendix to correlate with the soils map. (RE: Deficiency #1 and #2 of R645-301-233; #1, #2 of R645-301-242; #8 of R645-301-242.)

The Skyline mine soil reference pedons would be removed from the plan or placed in an Appendix (RE: Deficiencies #2, #4 R645-301-223).

A sampling plan for the entire disturbed area upon final reclamation would provide adequate response to deficiencies #3 and #4 under R645-301-233, deficiency #6 under R645-301-240. The reclamation bond will be adjusted accordingly (Deficiency #6 of R645-301-242).

An amended reclamation soil redistribution plan would respond to Deficiency #4, #6, and #7 of R645-301-242.

Reclamation cut and fill volumes and bonding calculations would not be revised until the Division affirmatively approves of the present operations maps (re: Deficiencies #5, 6, 7 under R645-301-233; Deficiencies #3, #5, #6 of R645-301-242).

The defunct reclamation plan for the road as provided in Appendix 5 of the plan should be removed after discussion with Valley Camp and Division personnel (RE: Deficiencies #2, 3 R645-301-240.)

Other soils deficiencies would be addressed as requested.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

Regarding the four deficiencies of R645-302-321: items #1 and #3 (concerning groundwater and spring information)

Page 4  
ACT/007/001  
August 7, 1992

will be researched and submitted as requested. Item #2 (historical use of adjacent and permit land for flood irrigation, pasture lands, and undeveloped rangeland) will be answered in a narrative form, rather than with a map. Item #4 (a pre-SMCRA surface disturbance map) will be produced.

Regarding the remaining TDR deficiencies, responses are forthcoming and should be in the form of an amendment to the present MRP.

Valley Camp will delay work on Reclamation cut/fill volumes and bonding until the Division is in receipt of approved operational designs. Reclamation sampling requirements and cut/fill volume revisions will require an adjustment to the present reclamation bond held by the Division.

cc: Bteam reader file  
STanner of Valley Camp  
DHansen of Hansen, Allen & Luce

VALCAM.MTG