



State of Utah
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 22, 1996

TO: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor *JH*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist *W#W*

RE: Amendment 96B, Conveyor Replacement, White Oak Mining and Construction Co Inc., White Oak Mine #1 and #2/Loadout, ACT/007/001-96B, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

In a letter addressed to Ken Wyatt, dated August 7, 1996, the Operator proposes removing the high angle gallery conveyor and replacing it with a pair of conveyors that will deposit coal directly into the stacking tube. The Operator also wanted to install underdrains in the sediment disposal area. Ken requested that I evaluate the proposal with respect to the reclamation bond for the conveyors and the drains for the sediment area drain.

Analysis:

Conveyor Belt

The Operator proposes removing the high angle conveyor, S-38, and replacing it with an extension of the No. 2 belt, S-39. The new S-39 extension will move coal from the existing belt to a new belt, S-45, that will move the coal from the stacking tube. As shown on the enclosed drawing a small platform will be excavated in the existing slope on the east side of the lower bench to accommodate the installation of the transfer point and belt drive for the S-45 belt. The excavation will be made in competent rock and have a slope of .25 horizontal to 1 vertical. Material from the cut will be used for regrading the area in the center of the truck loop. The Operator claims that the reclamation bond should not change because of the installation of the new conveyor system.

The proposed conveyor system should reduce the amount of coal that is spilled while transporting the material to the coal silo. The amount of material to be removed from the excavation should not exceed 18 cubic yards. That amount of material is minor and should not affect the mass balance calculations.



The current demolition cost for the high angle conveyor system is \$6572. The new conveyor system should have a minor demolition cost and it is unlikely that the bond would need to be increased at this time.

The Division cannot reduce the bond amount for reclamation work unless the Operator applies for bond release. The Division will not grant bond release for removal of just a conveyor belt in the pad area. The Operator needs to submit an estimate for the demolition and removal cost for the new conveyor system. That estimate must include the dimension of the conveyor system and where the debris will be disposed.

Sediment Area Drain

To prevent the possibility of adverse effects of the seeps along the cut slope of the sediment area a drain system is proposed. The seeps are on the southern end of the pile and are about 200 feet apart. The drain will consist of a four inch perforated pipe encased in coarse washed gravel. Initially the drain will be installed from one seep to the other with perforated pipe, and gravel the entire length between the two seeps. The perforated pipes will be connected to a 6-inch diameter pipe that will allow the water collected by the drain system to be routed to the outside of the pile and discharge into ditch D-31. This ditch will carry the water to the mine site sedimentation Pond (004). All pipes will be left in place after reclamation.

On August 21, 1996, the Operator submitted cross sections of the spoil pile and the drains. The cross sections show the general location of the seep, gravel, pipe and filter fabric. The pipes will have a slope at an angle of between ½% and 2%. The cross section was not certified as required under R645-301-521.124, nor was the cross section referenced in the text of the MRP.

The Division will approve a certified copy of the cross section. The Division recommends that the filter fabric completely wrapped around the pipe. Wrapping the filter fabric around the pipes should minimize the amount of fines from entering the pipes. Fines could clog the pipe, thus preventing them from properly functioning.

Before the amendment can be incorporated into the plan, the Operator must update the MRP. The update must include mention of the drains and pipes in the spoil pile and the cross section must be referenced in the text. The cross section should be given a number compatible with the other drains in the MRP.

Page 3
ACT/007/001-96B
August 22, 1996

Findings:

Deny the conveyor belt proposal because the Operator failed to meet the conditions of R645-301-830.140, by not providing the Division with detailed reclamation cost information.

Deny the sediment area drain because the Operator failed to meet the conditions of R645-301-512.120, by not submitting a certified copy of the cross sections. The Operator must include a description of the drainage system in the MRP. Reference to the cross section should be included in the text.

cc: D. Haddock
K. Wyatt
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