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

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March 30, 1998

Mark Wayment, Mine Manager
White Oak Mining & Construction
Scofield Route
Helper, Utah 84526

Re: Sediment Removal for Sediment Pond #004A, White Oak Mining & Construction, White Oak Mine #1, ACT/007/001-97B, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Wayment:

The referenced amendment reviewed by Senior Reclamation Specialist Mike Suflita can be approved upon receipt of the properly formatted amendment. Recent conversations between Mr. Suflita and Vicky Bailey indicated that this exercise would not impair the actual process of pumping the sediment pond material. Please provide the additional information by April 14, 1998. Mr. Suflita's analysis and findings are provided as follows:

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

Discharges

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-731.510

Analysis:

This submittal consists of three letters, two of which are addressed to Division employees and one addressed, "To Whom It May Concern". These are dated September 9, 1997 and November 3 and 12, 1997. In addition, there are laboratory testing results dated September 16, 1997 and October 15 and 24, 1997. There is also an MSHA letter dated September 18, 1997. Included are two labeled Attachments, A - Results of Chemical Analysis and B - MSHA Letter, and an additional Section 9, Spoil Management Area.

Although the C2 form is filled in, there is no indication where in the MRP these submittals are to be inserted. From an administrative standpoint this can not be considered a complete and clear submittal that is suitable for insertion into the Mining and Reclamation Plan. Given the status of the MRP, a suggested approach would be to put these materials in an appendix at the end of Chapter 7, Hydrology.

The discrepancies called out in the September, 26, 1997 TA appear to have been satisfied. These include:

- A. An explanation of discharge elevations and drainage areas.
- B. Sediment sampling and laboratory analysis to meet Forest Service and Division requirements.
- C. MSHA Approval Letter.

This is a one-time exception to the Operators normal method of sediment disposal, there is a relatively small volume of sediment, and substantial testing (TCLP) of the sediment shows no hazardous waste. The areas to which the slurry water will drain are not expected to suffer material damage, and no public hazards appear to exist. There is minimal disturbance to the hydrologic balance and no water quality effluent standards appear to be violated. The rates and quantities are defined and MSHA approval has been granted.

Findings:

The submittal is not acceptable in it's present form. It must be resubmitted in a form that is complete, comprehensive, and understandable. It must also show clearly where in the MRP it is to be inserted.

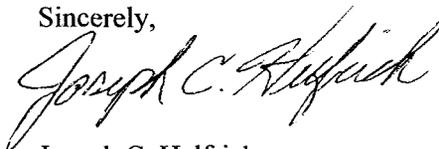
The requirements of R645-301-731.510 have been meet and, once the proposed change is resubmitted, Division approval can be issued.

RECOMMENDATION:

Prior to approval, the proposed modification must be resubmitted as described above.

If you have any questions please call Mike or me.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Helfrich
Permit Supervisor