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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 14, 1999

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *pgl for Daron Haddock*

FROM: Michael Suflita, Senior Reclamation Hydrologist *MS*

RE: Huntington-Cleveland Irrigation Co. Concerns, White Oak Mining & Construction Company, White Oak Mine, ACT/007/001, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

On June 16, 1999 the Division received a letter from Mr. J. Craig Smith of Neilsen and Senior law firm who represent Huntington-Cleveland Irrigation Company. The letter pointed out that the mine permit is up for review and is being transferred to a new owner. The letter indicated a concern about adverse impacts to the Hughes Canyon area and requested that the Division review the Permit to see that the hydrologic information, especially the Probable Hydrologic Consequences (PHC), and Comprehensive Hydrologic Impact Assessment (CHIA), are complete, accurate, and up to date.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

Analysis:

Review of topographic maps and the mine maps, especially R645-301-722.100c, show that there are two adjacent Hughes Canyons, North and South. The drainage area of both of these canyons lies completely outside the mining permit area and completely outside the CHIA boundary. As such, it can be expected that there will not be any impacts to either North Hughes Canyon or South Hughes Canyon, and their respective drainage areas, by mining activities at White Oak Mine.

The mine plan, including the PHC and CHIA, were reviewed and showed no changes in the anticipated mining activities from that which was originally approved. As such the PHC and CHIA do not need revision. Transfer of mine ownership is believed to be imminent and this could result in changes to the mine operation. If such changes occur, and if they are substantial, then changes to the plan could result. Those would have to be assessed when and

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if they occur.

Finding:

The plan continues to meet minimum regulatory requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

Complete the scheduled mine plan renewal review.

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