



June 26, 2003

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Dana Dean, P.E., Environmental Specialist/Hydrology

RE: Technical Field Visit: Possible Fill/Topsoil for White Oak Pit, Lodestar Energy, Inc., White Oak Mine, C/007/001

Other Attendees: Priscilla Burton, DOGM
Chris Rohrer, DOGM
Doug Johnson, Canyon Fuel Company
Dan Meadors, Canyon Fuel Company

Date & Time: June 23, 2003
10:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

PURPOSE:

To assess the James Canyon land bridge and Skyline Mine waste rock site for possible use as fill and/or topsoil at the White Oak pit.

OBSERVATIONS:

The Division of Wildlife Resources has asked PacifiCorp to provide mitigation for drilling the JC-3 well in James Canyon during the elk calving season. PacifiCorp will do so by removing the land bridge at the mouth of James Canyon where it meets Electric Lake. This bridge is currently impeding the movement of fish upstream. PacifiCorp must remove at least 40,000 cubic yards from the land bridge to complete the mitigation. They have offered instead to pay the Division \$30,000 and allow us to remove the material and use it as fill or topsoil, as

TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

needed, at the White Oak site. There are at least another 60,000 cubic yards available at the land bridge site. The \$30,000 that PacifiCorp is planning to spend would most likely only pay for the removal of the 40,000 cubic yards, not transportation. Three soil samples were taken of this material: two at the top of the dam and one at the toe. The samples were composites from 0-6 inches from three randomly selected locations. The samples were sent to the BYU Soil and Plant Analysis Lab for analysis of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, pH, E.C., SAR, and texture.

At the Skyline Mine waste rock site, there are 50,000 cubic yards available for fill. Whoever ultimately pays for the reclamation of White Oak would need to pay to remove and transport that material to the White Oak pit, if it is used.

Skyline will need to move around 1,000 cubic yards of waste rock from the mine in the near future, they are willing to take it directly to White Oak at no cost to the Division.

The contractor working on the Scofield jail has placed some excess concrete from the demolition of the original jail in the pit, under the direction of Steve Demczak.

The White Oak pit and Loadout remain the same as during previous inspections and field visits. The spoil piles are stable, but the highwalls, loadout structures, and open portals present a hazard to the public.

The White Oak sedimentation pond was reaching capacity, with a couple of feet of freeboard.

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

The Division should monitor the White Oak mine site frequently, especially if there is precipitation in the area.