

# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

## Utah Coal Regulatory Program



October 16, 2003

To: Internal File

THRU: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Jerriann Ernstsens, Ph.D., Environmental Specialist/Biology.

RE: Technical Field Visit, Prior to Construction, Lodestar Energy/Ledcor, White Oak Mine, C/007/001

**Other Attendees:** Division - Steve Demczak; Ledcor – Jarda, Wayne, Joe

**Date & Time:** October 15, 2003; morning

### **PURPOSE:**

The Division biologist visited White Oak mine on October 15, 2003. The primary goal was to examine the site prior to construction by Ledcor.

**FIELD OBSERVATIONS:** SEE IMAGES 10152003 IN DATABASE.

### *TOPSOIL PILES*

The topsoil pile near the tipple area has marginal vegetation cover of mostly grasses. The topsoil pile at the top of the site and to the northwest has cover. One small strip appeared barren of cover.

### *SPOIL PILE*

Ledcor informed DOGM that they plan to use the spoil as the primary source of topsoil. However, Ledcor will need this medium for fill. There is over 40,000 cubic yards of stockpiled topsoil that Ledcor must use as the topsoil resource.

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**TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT**

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*GOUGES*

Ledcor informed DOGM that they plan to space the gouges farther than requested by DOGM. The reasoning was that scooped growth media on top of the gouge's berm would slip back into the gouge's basin because of the 2:1 slope. Ledcor believes that this slippage will reduce the size of gouge depth. The DOGM believes that there will be some expected slippage, hence the large size of the gouges. The fall precipitation should limit the amount of slippage. Ledcor must follow the requested protocol for gouging. Please refer to DOGM's manual.

**RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:**

The Division requires that Ledcor to do the following:

- Use topsoil as the final layer.
- Space gouges according to protocol.