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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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Division Director

Outgoing
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August 17, 2010

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
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Hilda M. & Robert G. Hammond
2912 Redwood Ave.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Subject: White Oak Stabilization Project, C/007/0001, Landowner Communication.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hammond:

Our last letter (dated April 15, 2010) described preparations for further reclamation work at the former White Oak mine site in parcels:

Carbon County Parcel 2A-744, portions in the SW/4 SE/4 Sec. 19 and
Carbon County Parcel 2A-786, portions in the NE/4 NW/4 Sec. 30.

This reclamation construction work has gone out for bid today and will take place during September/October of this year. Weather conditions may force the work to continue into the 2011 construction season. The Division of Oil, Gas & Mining's (DOG M) representatives and contractors will widen the stream channel in its steepest reaches, install drop structures in the channel, and log retainers in the channel banks. All re-affected areas and stream banks will be mulched and reseeded. Logs will be scattered along the stream banks. If the timing is right, sheep may be allowed to pass through the area to provide soil roughing prior to seeding, on adjacent disturbed lands, too distant to reach with equipment.

All reclamation activity performed is pursuant to authority and funding under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-87) and Utah Administrative Code R645-301-880.920 and R645-301-880.930. The White Oak Stabilization Project is funded by the DOGM. You will bear none of the costs of the reclamation. Please call me at (801) 538-5325 if you have any questions regarding this work. I appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock
Coal Program Manager

DRH/PWB/sqs
Enclosure

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 Street, Apt. No.,
 or PO Box No. *2912 Redwood Ave*
 City, State, ZIP+4 *Costa Mesa CA 92626*

UTAH OGM COAL PROGRAM MEETING NOTES

Date: July 13, 2010
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Petroleum Room

To: Internal File, White Oak, C/007/0001, White Oak Stabilization Project

From: Priscilla Burton

Attendees: DOGM: Dana Dean, Jim Smith, Priscilla Burton, Joe Helfrich, Kevin Lundmark, James Owen.

LANDOWNER: Darin Caine, representing Milton A. Oman, Ltd.
and H. Michael Keller, Esq., of Vancott, Bagley, Cornwall & McCarthy, P.C.

Purpose: Present and discuss the plans for stream stabilization at White Oak this field season.

MEETING SUMMARY:

Priscilla presented a site overview. We discussed the severe erosion of the reconstructed Whiskey Creek channel and slopes as shown on photographs taken in 2008. Mr. Caine noted that the channel has become more entrenched since the photos were taken. The need for action to control erosion was evident to all.

Using maps from the Engineering Design & Analysis, James presented the Division's plans for construction:

Three terraces to increase infiltration into the soil and divert remaining flow to the constructed side channel, allowing further time for infiltration (Map WO-8).

The use of terraces for access to backfill the three subsidence holes that had developed above the former mine portals on the slope and in the channel.

Construction of temporary access roads for access to the upper terrace and to the stream channel.

Terrace A will serve as access to the Milton Oman land at Darin Caine's previous request.

Kevin and James discussed stream channel work:

Maximum hydraulic flow estimated as 100 cfs for a 100-year event. Stream velocities would be significantly reduced when the stream channel is widened in the steepest reaches (Map WO-9).

Removal of exposed and torn geotextile fabric.

Installation of drop structures in channel reaches.

Use of log retainers to stabilize the banks.

Mr. Caine requested additional drop structures be installed in the upper reaches of the channel. He also requested to be on site to provide comment on the drop structure installations. Mr. Caine stated the channel used to be overhanging with vegetation and scattered with log debris and encouraged the use of logs in the channel stabilization work. Mr. Caine also requested that rocks already available at the site should be used for the reclamation work.

Priscilla discussed the improvement of the soil. The soils are approximately 30% clay, derived from overburden. They crust over and do not allow water to infiltrate. Soils do not have extreme pH or SAR (salt) content and do not have elevated metals that would impair plant growth. Addition of organic matter is necessary to improve infiltration of water and to add biological activity. The Division plans to amend the soil were explained:

Incorporate straw/hay mulch into the soil with equipment and beyond the reach of equipment with sheep. Sheep herder would hold sheep on site for three days. Hoofs would break through crusted soil.

Apply Class B biosolids (dried, digested, pathogen tested). Source of biosolids is Price River Water Improvement District (PRWID).

Install erosion control logs in the gullies above and below terraces.

Scatter wood straw over the seeded site to protect the soil from erosion.

Mr. Caine agreed to allow sheep on his land for the purpose stated.

Mr. Keller asked whether biosolid test plots could be implemented. Kevin stated that the application of biosolids was an established procedure at reclamation sites. Priscilla indicated the Division is coordinating biosolids use through Mark Schmitz, Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ) and Bob Brobst, EPA. Land application is routinely practiced by the PRWID on agricultural land and is allowed by their permit from DWQ. Land application is limited by nitrogen concentration and heavy metals. For this one time application, nitrogen would be the limiting factor. Analyses of biosolids from PRWID in recent years were given to Mr. Caine, along with soils analyses from the site. Mr. Caine agreed to the application of biosolids.

Mr. Caine suggested that plenty of logs were locally available and a contractor could create the wood mulch at the site (rather than importing wood straw).

Mr. Caine asked whether the road would be improved. Dana described the bond forfeiture events and said that there were not adequate funds to improve the road. The road access by loggers and gas companies was discussed.

Joe described the plans to reseed the site and plant seedlings on the south slopes and on both stream banks. Joe stated that although the vegetation establishment was poor at the site, every single seeded species could be found growing at the site. Areas of good establishment were on the north facing slopes and the springs on the south slope, (south of the large subsidence hole).

The Division has placed a lock on the gate and Priscilla asked if Mr. Caine had received the certified letter with a key to the lock and describing the BidSync process. Mr. Caine had not. Priscilla gave Mr. Caine a copy of the certified letter which provides the Utah Division of Purchasing BidSync website where instructions for registering as a bidder could be found. (Priscilla resent the key to Mr. Caine on 7/26/2010.) Mr. Caine suggested Skyline Reclamation be notified when the contract goes out for bid.

ACTION ITEMS: (Include item, timeline, and responsible person.)

Priscilla will notify Mr. Caine of the pre-Bid meetings.

Priscilla will notify Skyline Reclamation when Utah Div. Purchasing places the contract out for bid.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: (This section is intended to provide attendees the opportunity to contribute additional and significant information concerning the meeting content that may not have been mentioned during the meeting.)

PWB

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