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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director
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4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

April 12, 1983

copy

Mr. Jackson Moffitt
Mining Supervisor
BIM - Central Region
2040 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

RE: Proposed Coal Exploration
Program
Sunedco
Carbon County, Utah
CEP/007/002

Dear Mr. Moffitt:

The Division has reviewed Sunedco's Sage Point-Dugout Canyon exploration plan for Carbon County, Utah which was received by this office on March 18, 1983. The plan under consideration has satisfied the State's concerns under requirements of Parts 776 and 815 of the regulations promulgated under the 1979 Act, "Regulations of Coal Mining and Reclamation Operations", Title 40-10-1 et seq, Utah Code Annotated, 1953, except for the following areas:

UMC 815.15 Performance Standards for Coal Exploration

(a) Deciduous stream bank vegetation is a unique and important wildlife habitat, and as such great care should be taken to minimize disturbance when drilling in this habitat type. The disturbance area itself should remain as small as possible, no trees should be removed unless absolutely necessary, and reclamation should be done so as to assure maximum revegetation. This may require special techniques. Care should be taken to prevent any runoff from drill pads from entering streams [815.15 (g)(2)].

(c)(2) Will any of the new access roads be used for a period longer than 6 months? If so, it (they) shall comply with the provisions of UMC 817.150 - 817.166. All roads to be used less than 6 months shall comply with the provisions of UMC 817.170 - 817.176.

(e) Topsoil shall be removed, stored and redistributed on disturbed areas as necessary to assure successful revegetation.

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(f) The applicant should provide revegetation seed mixes to be used giving species to be seeded, and amounts of seed per species (in Pure Live Seed). Since several communities will be affected, more than one seed mix may be needed to effectively reclaim all sites. Special attention should be paid to reclamation of deciduous stream bank sites, as described above.

(g)(1)(2) Will any overland flow of water be diverted during this operation? If so, a statement is required which explains how erosion will be prevented to the extent possible.

(h) The applicant is requested to describe the plugging methods to be employed for the drill holes. They shall meet the requirements of UMC 817.13 - UMC 817.15.

Please incorporate these concerns into your review and forward the requested information or have the company send it directly to our office. Also, we would like to visit the area of interest with BLM and Sunedco representatives as soon as conditions permit. This could conveniently be coordinated with the on-site evaluation of the proposed Coal Creek program (see enclosed letter). Additional Division comments, if any, will be submitted to your office soon after this field check.

Thank you for your cooperation. In reply, please refer to CEP/007/002. If any questions should arise, please call me.

Sincerely,

R. DOUGLAS MAIER
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

RDM/lm