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PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY

P.O. BOX 629 HELPER, UTAH 84526 (801) 472-3411

June 16, 1980

Ms. Mary Anne Wright
Reclamation Biologist
State of Utah
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Ms. Wright:

I wish to again thank you for the time afforded to Joe Davidson and me during our telephone conversation of June 13, 1980.

Pursuant to that discussion, I wish to request a conference relative to the environmental resources data requirements for the Price River Coal Company mine plan area located in Carbon County, Utah - in general and with specific emphasis on the following present and future surface facility areas:

- a. Crandall Canyon
- b. Sowbelly Canyon
- c. Hardscrabble Canyon
- d. Castle Gate Preparation Area
- e. Willow Creek Area

A specific description of these surface areas in terms of location, type of facility, area of surface disturbance, and projected life is as follows:

A. Crandall Canyon

- 1. Location: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 22, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 27, S $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 28, T.12S; R.9E; SLBM
- 2. Type of facility: The Crandall Canyon facility is presently undeveloped. Upon completion, however, it will become the center of activity for the development of the reserves west of the Price River. The proposed facilities will include:
 - i. An access road to the mine site area.
 - ii. A bathhouse - office facility to serve the complex which would accommodate approximately 625 miners and supervisors per day.

- iii. A blowing type mine ventilation system supplying 1,000,000 cfm of heated air for mine ventilation.
 - iv. A hoisting facility to provide for access of men and materials.
 - v. Two 26' diameter shafts - approximately 1,500' in depth (1 shaft intake and hoist; 1 shaft as exhaust).
 - vi. A shop with storage area for support of the mine.
3. Area of surface disturbance: The surface area affected by this facility will include:
- i. An area of approximately 200' x 1,100' immediately adjacent to the shafts which would be occupied by the office/bathroom and shop buildings and parking areas.
 - ii. A 40' x 1-1/2 mile road corridor extending from Route 6 to the mine complex. This road will follow the orientation of the present road.

The total area of disturbance including the road corridor is approximately 12.3 acres.

4. The projected life of the Crandall Canyon facility is 40 years.

B. Sowbelly Canyon

- 1. Location: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 5, W $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 4, T.13S; R9E; SLBM
- 2. Type of facility: Sowbelly Canyon is the site of the No. 5 Mine. The facility includes the mine portal and fan, a small shop/warehouse, a parking area, several office trailers, and mine fan. Access is by a paved road extending from the confluence of Sowbelly and Spring Canyons to the mine site.
- 3. Disturbed area: The area of surface disturbance resultant from the No. 5 Mine and the access road is approximately 18 acres.

4. Life of facility: The operations at Sowbelly Canyon should be completed within the next 24-36 months, after which, the surface structures will be removed and the area reclaimed. The curtailment of these operations are somewhat contingent on completion of the Crandall Canyon development.

C. Hardscrabble Canyon

1. Location: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 3, N $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 10,
T.13S; R9E; SLBM
2. Type of facility: Hardscrabble Canyon is the site of the No. 3 Mine, and the loadout point of coal produced in the No. 5 Mine. The facilities include several portals, fans, scalehouse, bathhouse, warehouse, office trailers, and shop. Access is by a paved road extending up Hardscrabble Canyon from Martin to the mine site.
3. Disturbed area: The area of surface disturbance resultant from the Hardscrabble Canyon operations, including the access road, is approximately 24 acres.
4. Life of facility: Mining operations in Hardscrabble Canyon will be terminated upon completion of the Crandall Canyon development. The structures will be removed, and the area reclaimed.

D. Castle Gate Preparation Area

1. Location: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 1, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 36, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 35,
T.13S; R9E; SLBM
2. Type of facility: The Castle Gate facility is the location of the coal preparation and refuse disposal facilities which serve the Price River operation. It is also the site of the rail loadout. Access to the area is by a paved road off of S.R. 33.
3. Disturbed area: The area of surface disturbance resulting from the Castle Gate facility, including the preparation plant, road, and refuse area is approximately 57 acres.

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4. Life of facility: The Castle Gate facility will remain active over the entire life of the Price River Coal Company operation - or approximately 40 years.

E. Willow Creek Area

1. Location: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 31, T.12S, R10E; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 6, T.13S, R10E; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 1, T.13S, R9E; SLBM
2. Type of facility: The Willow Creek area is the site of the No. 6 and 6A Mines. Development scheduling of these facilities is presently indefinite with development being contingent on securing necessary market and capital. Conceptually, however, these facilities would include mine office/bathhouse facilities, fans, warehouse and shop facilities, and parking areas. Coal from this facility would be delivered to the Castle Gate preparation area via an overland conveyor which would follow the course of an abandoned railroad grade. Air shafts to support this facility would likely be located in Dry Canyon and Willow Creek Canyon.
3. Disturbed area: The area of surface disturbance resultant from the Willow Creek development would be approximately 30 acres.
4. Life of facility: Upon completion, the Willow Creek area would remain active over the life of the operation or approximately 40 years.

Also, enclosed please find maps showing:

- a. Location of surface facilities within the mine plan area.
- b. Surface ownership in and adjacent to the mine plan area.
- c. Mineral ownership in and adjacent to the mine plan area.

As we pointed out in our discussion, we are most interested in submitting a separate request for minor modification of an approved mine plan for the Crandall Canyon facility to the Board

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for action before the end of July.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.
Should you have any questions, please advise.

Sincerely,

PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY


K. B. Hutchinson
Chief Engineer

KBH:ga

Enclosure

cc: Ron Daniels, w/o enclosure
Joe Davidson, w/o enclosure