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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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December 5, 1980

Mr. K. B. Hutchinson  
Chief Engineer  
Price River Coal Company  
P. O. Box 629  
Helper, Utah 84526

RE: Sediment Pond Plan Comments  
Hardscrabble & Sowbelly Canyons  
Price River Coal Company  
ACT/007/004  
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

Enclosed is a copy of OSM's comments on the addendum to the Sediment Pond plans for Hardscrabble and Sowbelly canyons submitted by Price River Coal Company. The Division has also reviewed the plans and concurs with the information OSM is requesting.

In addition, the State requests submission of certified calculations showing that the existing ponds at the Castle Gate site are adequately sized and designed to meet the required performance standards. It is also noted in the section outlining channel design, that channel velocities will be kept below 15 feet per second. The Division suggests a maximum channel velocity of 5 feet per second to insure adequate stability and prevent excessive scouring or incising of the channel.

If you have any questions regarding the requested information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

D. WAYNE HEDBERG  
RECLAMATION HYDROLOGIST

cc: Don Crane, OSM

Enclosure

DWH/btm



United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
BROOKS TOWERS  
1020 15TH STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

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DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. James Smith Jr.  
Coordinator of Mined Land Development  
Utah, Department of Natural  
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

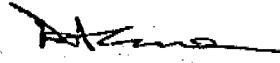
Dear Mr. Smith:

This office has reviewed Price River Coal Company's addition to the Sediment Pond plans for Hardscrabble and Sowbelly Canyons submitted August 18, 1980. These additions were in response to my June 2, 1980 deficiency letter to Mr. Ron Daniels of your office. After reviewing this information, we have the following comments and recommendations.

Even though all ponds are incised, it must still be shown that spillways can safely discharge the peak runoff from a 25 year-24 hour event. Dimensions and surface materials of spillways and where water is to be discharged must be submitted. Cross sections of diversion ditches and calculations showing that they are correctly sized should be included. A certification by a registered professional engineer must be submitted showing that the ponds were built as designed and that the ponds are stable. Plans for any future sediment ponds must be certified by a registered professional engineer. We recommend that staff gauges be installed to determine when sediment needs to be removed from the ponds.

The Office of Surface Mining cannot approve the sediment pond plans for Hardscrabble and Sowbelly Canyons until the above concerns are addressed. If you have any questions, please contact Marianne Adams or John Nadolski of my staff at (303) 837-3773. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
DONALD A. CRANE

cc: Trippe, USGS, Denver  
Smith, BOGM, SLC  
Wicks, ELM, SLC  
Hutchinson, Price River Coal Co.