

0014

file



SCOTT M. MATHESON
Governor

OIL, GAS, AND MINING BOARD

GORDON E. HARMSTON
Executive Director,
NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(801) 533-5771

CHARLES R. HENDERSON
Chairman

CLEON B. FEIGHT
Director

JOHN L. BELL
C. RAY JUVELIN
THADIS W. BOX
CONSTANCE K. LUNDBERG
EDWARD T. BECK
E. STEELE McINTYRE

August 5, 1980

Mr. Leon Berggren
Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box AB
Price, Utah 84501

Attn: Wildlife Biologist

RE: Pre-design Wildlife Consultation
Price River Coal Company
Braztah Complex
ACT/007/004

Dear Mr. Berggren:

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining hereby requests a consultation from your agency concerning the nature and level of detail of fish and wildlife resources information to be provided by Price River Coal Company for their permanent permit application pursuant to UMC 783.20 and SMC 779.20 of the Utah Coal Mining Regulations.

The applicant currently operates the Braztah Complex (#3, 5, 6, 7 and 8). The present and future surface facility areas at this mine are described below:

A. Crandall Canyon is located in portions of Section 22, 27 and 28, Township 12 South, Range 9 East, SLBM. 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 an access road to the mine site area, a bathhouse-office facility to serve the complex which would accommodate approximately 625 miners and supervisors per day, a blowing type mine ventilation system, a hoisting facility to provide for access of men and materials, two 26' diameter shafts (approximately 1,500' in depth) and a shop with storage area. The total area of disturbance including the road corridor is approximately 12.3 acres. The projected life of the Crandall Canyon facility is 40 years.

Mr. Leon Berggren
August 5, 1980
Page Two

B. Sowbelly Canyon is located in portions of Section 4 and 5, Township 13 South, Range 9 East, SLBM. 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. The area of surface disturbance resultant from the No. 5 Mine and the access road is approximately 18 acres. 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 is located in portions of Section 3 and 10, Township 13 South, Range 9 East, SLBM. 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. The area of surface disturbance resultant from the Hardscrabble Canyon operations, including the access road, is approximately 24 acres. Mining operations in Hardscrabble Canyon will be terminated upon completion of the Crandell Canyon development. The structures will be removed, and the area reclaimed.

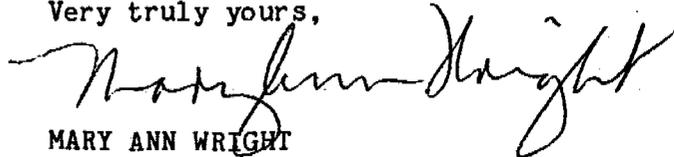
D. Castle Gate Preparation Area is located in portions of Section 1, 35 and 36, Township 13 South, Range 9 East, SLBM. The Castle Gate facility is the location of the coal preparation and refuse disposal facilities which serve the Price River operation. It is also the site of the rail loadout. Access to the area is by a paved road off of S.R. 33. The area of surface disturbance resulting from the Castle Gate facility, including the preparation plant, road, and refuse area is approximately 57 acres. 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 is located in portions of Section 31, Township 12 South, Range 10 East, Section 6, Township 13 South, Range 10 East, and Section 1, Township 13 South, Range 9 East, SLBM. 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, 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. The area of surface disturbance resultant from the Willow Creek development would be approximately 30 acres. Upon completion, the Willow Creek area would remain active over the life of the operation or approximately 40 years. Coal and surface ownership is a mixture of fee, federal and state.

Mr. Leon Burggren
August 5, 1980
Page Three

The Division would appreciate your reply within 30 days if possible. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Ann Wright".

MARY ANN WRIGHT
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

MAW/te