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PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY
P.O. BOX 629 HELPER, UTAH 84526 (801) 472-3411

RECEIVED
JAN 14 1982

January 13, 1982

**DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING**

CERTIFIED MAIL - Return Receipt Requested

Ms. Sally Keefer, Reclamation Hydrologist
Mr. James W. Smith, Jr., Coordinator of Mined Land Development
Mr. Tom Tetting, Engineering Geologist
Utah State Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

RE: Temporary Approval of Willow Creek Area as Helipad and
Compliance with the Stipulations of your 7/23/81 Approval

Dear Reclamation Staff:

Thank you again for your rapid action last summer which allowed our timely use of this area as a helipad during construction of our powerline from Hardscrabble to Crandall Canyon. Construction of the powerline was completed in late October, 1981, and all of the contractor's equipment removed by early November. We are continuing to use this area, as we have in the past, for storage and mine rescue training. I am also cleaning up the area near the old substation for future use as a central location for my reclamation equipment and materials.

Your approval letter on 7/23/81, required that within 6 months, Price River Coal Company provide you with reclamation or use plans for the Willow Creek area. I will attempt here to provide the information that you require.

As I have stated, we intend to continue to use this area for storage, mine training, etc. The area will be exactly the same as that identified and within the controlled drainage area depicted on maps submitted to you in July of 1981. This usage will continue until such time as we are prepared to construct the No. 6A facility (1-3 years). We have indicated the use of this area as the No. 6A Mine in our 211 Plan and in our pending mine plan application (see Chapter III, Section 3.6).

The Willow Creek area is currently bonded for reclamation as per agreement with DOGM in April of 1977. The bond rate will probably increase after the review of our present application to more closely approximate the new reclamation requirements. The method, time, seed mix, etc., will not be dissimilar to those being reviewed for Crandall Canyon and the remainder of the Price River Coal complex.

The stipulation has been made that we demonstrate compliance with the performance standards. The particular standards, with which I perceive, that you are concerned are probably those applying to signs, markers and drainage controls.

Ms. Sally Keefer
Mrs. James W. Smith, Mr.
Mr. Tom Tetting
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Signs and Markers:

The following signs are in place and of a reasonably permanent nature:

Wooden Lathe Perimeter Markers
Stream Buffer Zone Markers
Mine ID Signs

Drainage Controls:

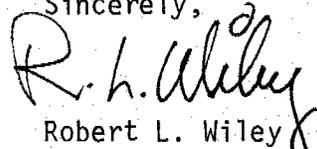
All drainage controls installed in July of 1981 remain in place and are in good working order. All culverts, berms and ponds have been designed to 10 year, 24 hour event standards (see hydrologic computations submitted in July, 1981). I have included a recent photo (12/16/81) of the Willow Creek area for your reference.

The additional work needed for a more permanent type of compliance with the drainage control standards will be to install discharge pipes in the existing ponds. Before we can do this, we must obtain three additional discharge point numbers on an existing NPDES Permit from EPA (requested 1/12/81) and pass some design information through the water pollution people at UDH. Pipe sizing calculations for the 25 year event will be provided to you within 30 days. We will install the pipes after we receive UDH construction approval and as soon as possible after spring thaw (early April?, 1982).

We will maintain all drainage control facilities as for our other surface facilities (constantly!) and will expect your inspectors to look this area over routinely.

I hope the foregoing information is sufficient for the time being. Please contact me if you have any additional needs.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Wiley
Environmental Engineer

RLW:ga

Encl. - 1 8x10 Aerial Photo of Willow Creek Area to Ms. Keefer

cc: K. B. Hutchinson
E. Buoy
E. Haub