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

SEP 16 1983

ACT/007/004
#2

Mr. Rob Wiley
Environmental Engineer
Price River Coal Company
76 South Main Street
Helper, UT 84526

Dear Mr. Wiley:

As a result of an August 29, 1983 meeting between OSM, UDOGM, Fred C. Hart Associates, Vaughn Hansen Associates, and Price River Coal Company (PRCC), at the offices of Vaughn Hansen Associates in Salt Lake City, it is understood that PRCC will assemble additional groundwater data and a groundwater monitoring plan which will be incorporated into the Draft Technical and Environmental Analysis (TEA) for assessment of groundwater impacts. The information which is missing and must be provided in a concise manner includes the following:

- 1) A prediction of the flow rates of ground water to be intercepted for the next five (5) years and for the anticipated life-of-mine.
- 2) Substantiation of the claim that the data from coal and other strata from nearby areas are geo-chemically similar to each other.
- 3) A proposed groundwater monitoring plan which contains:
 - a) The locations of discharge points in existing and abandoned mines and identification of strata from which discharge occurs. At a minimum, PRCC must monitor:
 1. One of the alluvial springs in Spring Canyon Creek;
 2. The Crandall Canyon Spring; and,
 3. The flow and quality at all abandoned mine access points in the lease area and at one of the mines discharging into Spring Canyon Creek.
 - b) A discussion of the sampling frequency as well as the chemical parameters to be analyzed. In addition to the basic NPDES requirements, PRCC must analyze the major cations and anions and calculate the Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR) semi-annually.
 - c) A generalized monitoring plan to assure that no material change to the hydrologic balance outside the permit area occurs.

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In addition, OSM has reviewed PRCC's subsidence plan and has determined that PRCC has provided insufficient information to properly assess the effects of subsidence underneath and immediately adjacent to the Price River, except for mining proposed in the sub-3 seam.

PRCC must submit acceptable groundwater monitoring and subsidence plans by September 23, 1983 if OSM is to meet the decision deadline discussed in the joint UDOGM/OSM letter of June 13, 1983. Should you have any questions concerning this discussion on groundwater monitoring and subsidence plans for PRCC, please call either Dave Maxwell or Walter Swain at (303) 837-3807.

Sincerely,

Allen D. Klein
Administrator
Western Technical Center

cc: Laine Adair - PRCC
Tom Tetting - UDOGM ✓
Lynn Kunzler - UDOGM
Walter Swain - OSM
Steve Manger - OSM
Bennett Young - OSM
Scott Grace - OSM

bcc: Adm
Div
Ofc

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