



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

RECEIVED

JUL 18 1984

DIVISION OF OIL
GAS & MININGCERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

JUL 13 1984

File Act/007/004
 Folder #2, 3
 Copy to Sam Ward

Mr. Gordon Cook
 Vice President and General Manager
 Price River Coal Company
 P.O. Box 629
 Helper, Utah 84526

Dear Mr. Cook:

The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) Western Technical Center has reviewed the design information submitted by the Price River Coal Company (PRCC) on June 13, 1984 for the construction of spillways for ponds 007 and 008 in Hardscrabble Canyon and pond 005 in Sowbelly Gulch. Based on that review, OSM staff has determined that the spillway designs for ponds 007 and 008 in Hardscrabble Canyon are adequate. Therefore, I hereby grant permission for Price River Coal Company to commence construction of spillways for ponds 007 and 008, only. However, the spillway design for pond 005 in Sowbelly Gulch is inadequate with respect to the required 1.0 foot (ft.) of freeboard (UMC 817.46(j)).

There are a number of approaches that PRCC could take to solve the freeboard problem at pond 005. OSM calculates the spillway velocity for pond 005 to be 3.07 feet per second (ft/sec) at a depth equal to 0.64 ft. Based on this velocity, OSM recommends that the proposed 12-inch riprap protection either be eliminated or replaced by a smaller size that would provide additional depth and, hence, freeboard. Other measures that would provide additional freeboard may include increasing the pond berm height or deepening the receiving channel and lowering the spillway approximately a foot. Price River Coal Company must submit a revised spillway design for pond 005, which allows for the required 1.0 ft. of freeboard and maintains the required capacity, to OSM within ten (10) days from receipt of this letter.

Should you have any questions concerning the contents of this letter, please contact either Dave Maxwell or Walter Swain at (303) 844-3806.

Sincerely,

Allen D. Klein
 Administrator
 Western Technical Center

cc: Walter Swain - OSM
 Don Minges - OSM
 Bob Hagen - OSM, Albuquerque
 Sharon Kliwinski - OSM, Washington, D.C.
 Susan Linner - UDGOM
 Sandy Pruitt - UDGOM