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STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

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Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

April 20, 1984

p 396 996 749  
CERTIFIED RECEIPT RETURN REQUESTEDMr. Rob Wiley  
Price River Coal Company  
P. O. Box 629  
Helper, Utah 84526RE: NOV #N84-2-5-1  
Sowbelly Canyon  
ACT/007/004, Folder 7  
Carbon County, Utah'

Dear Mr. Wiley:

Enclosed is a modification to NOV #N84-2-5-1 extending the abatement deadline, as requested, due to misunderstandings of the required abatement action. On April 16, 1984 the strawbales below the guard shack in Sowbelly Canyon were well maintained, but no runoff was observed to verify their adequacy. It was reported on April 18, 1984 that the snow/residue pile was removed from the area cited but replaced by a stockpile of sediment from maintenance activities. This new stockpile was removed from the area cited, upon my request, as of April 18, 1984. Therefore, only the final abatement requirement has yet to be adequately addressed. I will attempt to clarify this requirement.

The observations made on February 29, 1984, resulting in the NOV have caused concern that the small area exemption (SAE) is not warranted because the sediment control measures provided were not adequate to meet effluent limitations in the state they were in and for the type use of the area observed (ie. for storage of snow and sediment). Therefore, the SAE needs to be reevaluated in accordance with UMC 817.42 (a)(3). In other words, Price River Coal Company (PRCC) needs to prove that effluent limitations can be met.

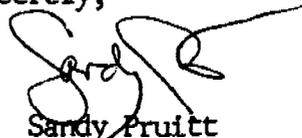
One way this may be demonstrated is by providing information on the intended use of this area, for example, the type of material storage and whether PRCC intends to continue to use the area for snow and/or sediment storage. Additional information on the size and slope of the area, soil type, precipitation and amount of expected runoff leaving the site (supported with calculations for a 10 year-24 hour event) can then be applied to the universal soil loss equation to determine the amount of sediment leaving the area.

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There may be other methods of demonstrating that effluent limitations can be met. Please feel free to discuss any proposals. Also, I realize that PRCC has requested a small area exemption in the permanent program permit application, if an adequate written demonstration has already been provided, please make reference.

If you have any questions or concerns again in adequately addressing this requirement, please be sure to let me know or discuss them with Wayne Hedberg.

Sincerely,



Sandy Pruitt  
Mining Field Specialist

DL:re

cc: Walt Swain, OSM, Denver  
Jodie Merriman, OSM, Albuquerque  
Joe Helfrich, DOGM  
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM

Enclosure  
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