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M. swe file
W. Hedby
LPA - (letter only)



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Subsidiary of
Coastal States
Energy Company

July 25, 1985

*ACT 1007/005
#3*

RECEIVED

JUL 30 1985

**DIVISION OF OIL
GAS & MINING**

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton
Mined Land Reclamation Administrator
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Re: Scofield Waste Rock Disposal Site Minor Modification

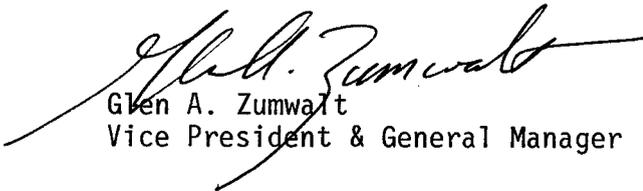
Dear Mr. Braxton:

We are hereby submitting a minor modification to our approved Scofield Waste Rock Disposal plan to: (1) cover all venting cracks and fissures, (2) compact adjacent pit material to help prevent cracks due to differential compaction, (3) provide for removal of shrubs high along north side of pit and not to remove sparse grass and weeds, and (4) update plan language to show only one concrete swale to agree with as-built plan submitted to the Division on June 30, 1985.

We are submitting six copies of Pages 8, 9, 10, 11 and 11a for your records. We trust that this will satisfy the questions raised in your June 28, 1985 letter. We have changed the plan to cover venting crack or fissures. We do not feel that cracks or fissures that are not venting need to be treated.

If you need additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,


Glen A. Zumwalt
Vice President & General Manager

GAZ:KZ:jsg

Enclosure

locally-derived gravel will be spread uniformly to provide a layer four inches thick.

Near-surface portions of the UP coal seams which were mined and then burned have subsided at the intersection of entries. Other areas have developed subsidence cracks which transfer the coal fire combustion products to the surface, generally leaving coal-like condensates which are readily apparent in field examinations. No evidence of subsidence or of coal fires has been observed under or within ten or more feet from either side of the existing road. The anticipated infrequent need to use the rock waste disposal site once there is sufficient underground development for the material to be permanently stored underground will minimize the potential for subsidence due to truck traffic over the road. Truck drivers will be trained to look for the surface evidence of subsidence and, should subsidence occur, good engineering practices will be employed in backfilling depressions and compacting the subsided area. A subsidence monitoring program is not needed due to the absence of current mining and the inferred low density of underground development beneath the access road alignment.

B. Disposal Site

The preparation of the proposed disposal site will entail:

1. Emplacement of drainage controls to redirect surface waters around the site and into the original, pre-strip mining drainage system.
- *2. The emplacement of non-combustible fill material to form a barrier across the floor and along the walls of the abandoned strip pit where coal seams were exposed during prior mining activities and where cracks or fissures are venting from adjacent coal fires.
3. The construction of a fence and gate to control access to the disposal site.
- *4. Some shrubs will need to be removed that are located high along the north side of the pit just prior to the time the area they occupy will be covered with waste rock. The sparse grass and weeds will not be removed.

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The present course of the drainage from the canyon to the east of the abandoned strip pit will be re-routed around the abandoned strip pit in order to redirect the flow into the original stream course, and, therefore, around rather than into the proposed disposal * site. An open channel and one swale will be used to redirect the water flow (Maps 2 and 3).

The dip to redirect the drainage across the access road and into the original stream channel will be constructed of concrete as shown in Figure 2.

Calculations of the 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event flow and the design of the channel are presented in Appendix 5.

The Applicant does commit to search for seeps or springs in the downslope area west of the disposal site and, should any seeps or springs be found, to monitor the source(s) over the life of the disposal site. The approach is consistent with that in the Skyline MRP, Volume A.1. The constituents to be monitored and the frequency of monitoring will follow the schedule described in the MRP, Volume A.1.

Surface water monitoring will be carried out, though the exceedingly ephemeral nature of the water flows in the area will necessarily affect the frequency of sampling. The Applicant commits to the following surface water monitoring program:

1. Four monitoring stations will be established. Two stations will be established on the drainage from the east and two sites on the drainage from the south. Stations will be located both above and below the rock waste disposal site in each of the drainages. The exact locations of the stations will be determined after the snow melts in the spring of 1984 and subsequently identified on Map No. 1 which will be sent to the Division.
2. When flow is present, these stations will be monitored when accessible at the same frequency and for the same constituents

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*Denotes change or addition

as the stations in Eccles Creek as described in the Skyline MRP, Volume A.1. The data will be tabulated and reported in the same manner as the Skyline water quality data

3. The data from these stations will be evaluated for non-point source contribution from ground water aquifers. This procedure offers the best potential for detection of ground water contamination.

The compacted non-combustible fill will be emplaced along the floor and walls of the pit in order to isolate the coal seams and * venting cracks and fissures in the highwall from the material to be disposed of in the pit. Approximately two feet of compacted material will be placed on the floor and three feet along the wall, where required. The material to isolate exposed coal seams and venting cracks or fissures along the walls will be built up and compacted in lifts during normal rock disposal operations after an initial three to four feet high barrier is constructed. Venting * cracks or fissures will be identified on a map and submitted to DOGM with the regular configuration reports. Drainage onto the floor of the pit will be directed to a pre-existing sump at the east end of the abandoned strip pit (Map 3). Cross sections through the pit and sump are shown in Maps 4 and 5. A fence and gate will be installed in order to prevent unauthorized access to the rock disposal site (Map 3).

There are two locations in the pit where coal is exposed. These exposures of the coal seam are shown in Map 3. The exposure in the west end of the pit will require sealing before any dumping of waste is undertaken. The initial three to four feet high barrier will be built up of incombustible material and will be obtained from the slope detritus along the highwall. The material will be dumped alongside and on top of the coal and compacted to form the barrier between the exposed coal and material to be dumped alongside and on top of the coal and compacted to form the barrier between the exposed coal and material to be dumped.

The second location where coal is exposed is in the extreme

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east end of the pit in the highwall. This location will probably never require sealing since the pit will not reach the location upon attaining final fill configuration (Map 6).

Operations Plan

A. Access Road

During operations the access road will be maintained using a road grader and any other equipment which may be necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of UMC 817.166. Drainage ditches and cross drains (Figure 3) will be maintained to ensure proper functioning. Additional gravel will be selectively placed as required to ensure approximately four inches of road base gravel on the road.

Accidental spillage of rock waste during haulage from the minesite to the disposal site will be minimized by not overloading the haulage trucks. Accidental spills, if they occur, will be cleaned up by shoveling the material into a truck and transporting the materials to the disposal site within 24 hours after the accidental spill occurs.

B. Disposal Site

The underground development waste rock and excess fill material from the unit train layout area will be emplaced and compacted in layers not exceeding two feet in thickness where * possible adjacent material along the edges will also be compacted to help prevent cracks due to differential compaction between the waste rock material and the adjacent pit material. A bulldozer will be used to level, grade and compact the material. As layers of compacted material are added to the floor of the pit, the three-foot thick non-combustible barrier where required * to isolate any exposed coal seams and venting cracks or fissures will be added.

The compacted layers of fill will be sloped at an angle 2-3% to the east in order to direct any drainage from the pit

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floor into the sump at the east end of the pit. The sump will be pumped out if filled and the water will be hauled to the loadout sedimentation pond.

IV. RECLAMATION PLAN

Reclamation activities will be conducted on portions of the affected areas as those portions are filled to design capacity. The final contours