

Orig: ACT 007/005 #2  
cc S. Linn

0306

United States  
Department of Agriculture      Forest Service      Manti-LaSal National Forest      599 West Price River Dr. Price, Utah 84501

Reply to: 2820

**RECEIVED**  
NOV 30 1988

Date: November 28, 1988

Lowell Braxton  
State of Utah Natural Resources  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 W. North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

RE: Permit Renewal Submittal, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah, 10/15/88 Submittal

Dear Lowell:

We have reviewed Utah Fuel Company's (UFCo.) May 25, 1988, response to identified concerns and the accompanying October 15, 1988 (10/15/88), submittal. All of the Forest Service concerns identified in the Forest Service letter to the Division dated May 9, 1988, have been adequately addressed. The remaining Forest Service concerns documented in our February 10, 1988, letter to the Division still need to be addressed.

In addition, we have the following comments on the 10/15/88 submittal:

- 1. Page 2-23A, Figure 2.3.2-1

*how does our perennial  
S. Fork policy fit?*

In this figure, which shows the results of the spring survey in South Fork of Eccles Creek, the longwall panels are shown to extend southeasterly under the drainage. It is our understanding that the panels are to be shortened so that mining under the South Fork drainage will not occur. This figure does not show that this is the case. In addition, it is not possible to confirm this either way from Maps 3.3-1 or 3.3-2. Since the South Fork of Eccles Creek is perennial, it must be protected from subsidence. All drawings which show the workings should be consistent and show that the panels will not extend under the drainage.

- 2. South Fork Breakout Discussion in all Sections and Map 3.2.11-1

The discussions and map are not consistent with the as-built conditions. Several changes were agreed to on-the-ground during construction, resulting in the need to revise this material and make several additions. It is our understanding that the Division has already contacted UFCo. and requested as-built information. We have identified needed additions and revisions. For further information, please contact the Manti-LaSal National Forest.

3. Portal Area Sediment Pond

As stated in the Forest Service comments, the sediment pond must be backfilled and reclaimed after final reclamation of the portal area is determined to be successful. UFCo. has made revisions on pages 3-40 and 4-3 to be consistent with this requirement. An additional revision needs to be made on page 4-18. In the first paragraph it is stated that the sediment pond will not be backfilled and will be allowed to fill in naturally, thus creating riparian habitat to enhance wildlife.

4. Page 3-39, Paragraph 4

*on forest or off?*

The MRP has been changed in the 10/15/88 revision which would allow for the culverts in Eccles Creek to remain in place after reclamation. The original approved plan stated that the culvert would be removed (Page 4-66). We do not concur with this change which would allow the culvert to be left in place.

5. Page 4-84, Last Paragraph (Editorial Comment)

It is stated that the road across the tributary to South Fork is a fishery. We assume that this is an error and that it was intended to state that the stream is a fishery.

If you have any questions, please contact the Forest Supervisor's Office in Price, Utah.

Sincerely,



for  
GEORGE A. MORRIS  
Forest Supervisor