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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 26, 1988

TO: Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Biologist *LK*

RE: Conveyor Bench Revegetation Plots, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005 -88c, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Summary:

The above referenced plan submitted on September 26, 1988 has been reviewed. The plan has been well thought out and planned, and with the exception the proposed alternative to mulch anchoring (see condition UMC 817.114 - (1) - LK) the plan should be approved.

Analysis:

In cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service and the Division, Utah Fuel Co. has developed a plan to revegetate the steep slopes associated with the conveyor corridor. This plan is to establish shrubs, using a drip irrigation system and broadcast seed a small amount of grass and forb seeds. Seeding will be done every fall for a 5-year period, or until it is determined that sufficient grass/forb vegetation is established. Shrub transplants will be planted in 'safe' sites with drip irrigation, and new transplants being planted every other year until sufficient shrubs are established. A testplot will also be established, using several introduced species, to demonstrate that these species meet the criteria of UMC 817.112. All sites will be evaluated on a regular basis and the plan will be modified as needed, based on site evaluations. Mulch will not be used except on trial #3. An alternative to anchoring straw by crimping is using jute netting. This product has not produced favorable results in the past, and may have contributed to past failures. Therefore, jute netting should not be approved as an alternative.

Recommendations:

The plan should be approved with the following condition:

Condition UMC 817.114 - (1) - LK:

Jute Netting is not approved as an alternative mulch. If an alternative to crimping straw mulch is needed, the type of material used must be approved prior to implementation.

cc: R. Harden
H. Sandbeck
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