

0026



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangarter  
Governor  
Dee C. Hansen  
Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

September 30, 1988

Mr. Glen Zumwalt  
Vice President/General Manager  
Utah Fuel Company  
P. O. Box 719  
Helper, Utah 84526

*Glen*  
Dear Mr. Zumwalt:

Re: Conditional Approval, PAP Amendment, South Fork Canyon  
Breakout, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine,  
ACT/007/005-88(B), Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

The Division has completed review of your company's submittal received September 16, 1988. The plans were reviewed by the technical staff. Resolution of conditions UMC 817.41 and UMC 817.52, UMC 817.44(1-4), UMC 817.101, and UMC 800, as outlined in the attached technical review memos; and the attached Forest Service Stipulations (Appendix B of the Environmental Assessment) will consummate final approval.

Please note the various due dates for response to each stipulation.

If you have any questions, please call Randy Harden or me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan C. Linner for".

Susan C. Linner  
Reclamation Biologist/  
Permit Supervisor

c1  
Attachments  
cc: J. Helfrich  
R. Harden  
WPOB45/27

Management Requirements and Constraints

Utah Fuel Company, Portal Breakouts in South Fork of Eccles Creek

A. Management Constraints Common to Alternative 2, 3, and 4

1. No construction operations may begin prior to approval. Any modifications or changes to approved plans are also subject to Forest Service review and approval. Forest must be given 48 hour notification prior to commencement of operations.
2. A preconstruction meeting involving the Forest Service, company representative(s) and their contractor(s) must be conducted before any construction work may begin. The pad and road must be construction staked prior to this meeting.
3. All surface disturbing activities must be supervised by a qualified, responsible official or representative of the designated operator who is aware of the terms and conditions of the approved plans.
4. If cultural or paleontological resources are discovered during operations, all activities which may result in disturbance to the resource, will cease and the Forest Service will be notified immediately of the discovery.
5. Fire suppression equipment must be available to all personnel on the project site. Equipment must include a minimum of one hand tool per crew member consisting of shovels and pulaskis, and one properly rated fire extinguisher per vehicle and/or internal combustion engine.
6. All gasoline and diesel equipment must be equipped with effective spark arresters and mufflers. Spark arresters must meet Forest Service specifications discussed in the USDA Forest Service Spark Arrester Guide. In addition, all electrical equipment must be properly insulated to prevent sparks.
7. The operator will be held responsible for damage and suppression costs for fires started as a result of their operations. Fires must be reported to the Forest Service immediately upon discovery.
8. All accidents or mishaps resulting in significant resource damage and/or death or serious personal injury must be reported to the Forest Service as soon as possible.
9. Harassment of wildlife and livestock is prohibited.
10. All disturbed areas and abandoned roadway sections will be seeded as soon as practical to establish vegetation for soil protection and inhibit growth of musk thistle. Seeding may be done by either drilling or broadcast method. Drilling method will be done on relatively flat slopes. If the drilling method is used, seeds will be drilled to a depth not less than 1/16 inch and not more than 1/2 inch. The seed mix is shown in the following table.

Common Name	Botanical Name	lb/ac
Smooth Brome	<i>Bromus inermis</i>	2
Orchard Grass	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	2
Meadow Foxtail		1
Timothy	<i>Phleum pratensis</i>	1
Slender Wheat grass	<i>Agropyron trachycaulum</i>	1
Yellow Sweet Clover	<i>Medicago officinalis</i>	1/2
Ladak Alfalfa		1

On south facing slopes substitute the following for Timothy and Meadow Foxtail:

Perennial Rye Grass	<i>Lolium Perenne</i>	1
Crested Wheat Grass	<i>Agropyron cristatum</i>	2

Note: seed mix should be certified to have a minimum of 90% PLS and a maximum of 1% weed (none of which are noxious)

11. All trash, garbage and other refuse must be properly contained on the site during operations and periodically disposed of off-Forest at an approved refuse facility. Following completion of operations, all unnecessary equipment, materials and refuse must be removed from the Forest.
12. Utah Fuel Company will be required to purchase all merchantable timber (8 inch and greater DBH) and fuel wood (4 to 8 DBH) for the entire project area. The Forest Service will conduct a cruise when clearing limits have been established. All conifer will be removed from the Forest prior to November 30, 1988.
13. All slash will either be removed from the Forest or burned on Forest before this winter. If burned, Utah Fuel Company will be required to acquire a Burning Permit...
14. Prior to any grubbing work, all trees to be removed will be cut down so that the stumps can then be dozed without damaging the remaining, adjacent trees.
15. All revegetation efforts will be monitored for a period of 3 to 5 years following initial seeding. If deemed necessary by the Forest Service, further reclamation efforts will be required.
16. If noxious weeds present a future problem, they will be controlled by Utah Fuel Company.
17. Utah Fuel will inspect the breakout area for slope instability at a minimum of once per month. If instability becomes evident or failure occurs, the Forest Service will be notified to coordinate mitigations.
18. If sheep grazing or trailing on disturbed areas is found to interfere with reclamation, fencing may be required.
19. All fill slopes of the portal pad and stream crossing will be stabilized with a tackifier or geotextile until revegetation is established. Silt fences or straw bales will be installed and maintained at the base of these slopes until adequate vegetation is established.

20. The upper 18" culvert (at the meadow) will be removed and existing drainage reestablished after construction operations are complete. Above the upper culvert the road will be reclaimed and rendered impassable to all vehicular traffic.
21. The lower 18 inch culvert will remain in place until final (life of mine) reclamation.
22. Top soil will be stockpiled in a manner approved by the Forest Service
23. Hauling will not occur on the road during wet conditions when the surface is susceptible to rutting. Hauling may not commence again until the road surface has stabilized.
24. The roadway to be reopened from the meadow to the proposed pad will be outslopped with rolling ditches for drainage spaced at 150 foot intervals or less. A continuous silt fence must be installed on the fill slope of this road section for its full length. Silt fencing must be maintained until vegetation is successfully reestablished at which time it will be removed.
25. The Forest Service will monitor the South Fork of Eccles during 1989 to determine if adverse impacts to the macroinvertebrate population have occurred. If impacts are determined to be adverse, Utah Fuel will be responsible for further monitoring per Forest Service direction.

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B. Management Requirements Unique to Alternative 2

1. The 36 inch culvert shall have a flared inlet equipped with a trash rack. The inlet and outlet will be armored with rip rap.
  2. The trash rack will be inspected and cleared of debris on a monthly basis.
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801-538-5340

September 28, 1988

TO: File

FROM: Mike DeWeese, Reclamation Hydrologist *MDD*

RE: South Fork Eccles Creek Breakout, Utah Fuel Company,  
Skyline Mine #1, ACT/007/005-88(B), Folder 2, Carbon  
County, Utah

## SYNOPSIS

The response to the Division's deficiency document dated September 16, 1988 has been reviewed. Although most of the deficiencies have been mitigated, the following items still must be addressed or corrected.

## ANALYSIS

### UMC 817.44 Hydrologic Balance: Stream Channel Diversions - MMD

The Operator has submitted riprap calculations demonstrating that the reclaimed stream channel design is adequate to convey the predicted runoff from the 100 year-24 hour storm at non-erosive velocities. However, the submitted riprap filter design is incorrect. Page 14 of the engineering calculations presents a size distribution for the base material. This distribution shows a  $D_{85}$  smaller than the  $D_{15}$  of the base material, which is physically impossible. This appears to be an inadvertent error in transposing values as the operator's procedure is correct. The riprap filter must be redesigned using the correct base material size distribution. The depth of the filter blanket layer, which should be at least 6 inches, must also be included in the submitted design.

Details of the reclamation plan must be submitted including a survey of the existing stream channel demonstrating that the restored channel will have a capacity at least equal to the upstream and downstream sections (i.e., channel cross-sections). The channel cross section presented on page 18 of the engineering calculations lacks sufficient detail to accurately determine the channel capacity. The operator must also submit plans to meet the requirements of UMC 817.44 (d).

Calculations for the submitted culvert riprap apron design are stated to be for minimum tailwater conditions (page 16, engineering calculations). The submitted apron riprap design is acceptable as the Division believes a filter layer is unnecessary for a riprap  $D_{50}$  of 4 inches. However, the riprap apron dimensions are incorrect. The apron must be 13 feet wide for minimum tailwater conditions. The operator submitted a design width of 7 feet calculated using the formula for maximum tailwater conditions.

Stipulations 817.44-(1-4) - MMD are necessary for approval.

Stipulations 817.44-(1-4) - MMD

1. The operator must submit a revision of the proposed amendment to the MRP within 30 days of approval containing a correctly designed filter blanket size distribution and depth of the filter blanket layer.
2. An accurate cross-section of the existing upstream and downstream channel configuration, and, a cross-section of the existing channel configuration at the midpoint of the culvert location must be submitted to the Division within 30 days of approval. These cross-sections must be of scale 1"=2' or less.
3. Plans to meet the requirements of UMC 817.44 (d) must be submitted to the Division within 30 days of approval.
4. A corrected riprap apron design for the spillway culvert energy dissipator must be submitted to the Division within 30 days of approval. The design dimensions and riprap size must be determined using one tailwater depth criteria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Division recommends that the proposed South Fork Eccles Creek breakout amendment be conditionally approved with the aforementioned stipulations.

cc: B Team  
WPOB47/23-24



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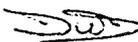
3 Triad Center, Suite 350

Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

801-538-5340

September 30, 1988

TO: File

FROM: David W. Darby, Geologist 

RE: Technical Deficiencies Review-South Fork Canyon Breakout, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005-88-B, Utah Fuel Company, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

## Synopsis

A review of Utah Fuel Company's South Fork resubmittal of September 16, 1988 has been conducted for ground water and subsidence issues. The South Fork Breakout proposed for ventilation purposes was originally submitted on April 27, 1988 and again on July 18, 1988. Once again Utah Fuel Company has failed to address locations and discharge volume of springs in the area.

## Summary of Permit Review

Utah Fuel Company has not addressed the existence of springs within the South Fork Area. To refute their response, "There are no springs involved", I must state that on August 30, 1988 I examined the proposed breakout site and located several springs along the road where Utah Fuel Company intends to place their top soil stock pile.

During the first meeting when the breakout was proposed, I told Keith Zobel that a complete spring inventory needed to be conducted over the proposed breakout site.

Since the original proposal of April 27, 1988, it appears that Utah Fuel Company has not attempted to evaluate either the springs or surface water sources at the site. Both high and low seasonal flows could have been obtained by now.

If Utah Fuel Company does not intend to conduct full extraction mining within or adjacent to the breakout area the Division agrees that it is not necessary to supply subsidence monitoring information other than that committed to in the subsidence plan for the mine.

Conclusion and Recommendation

To ensure minimal impacts for the next 5-year permit and life of mine the operator will be required to provide the following information.

UMC 817.41 and UMC 817.52

Stipulation - UMC 817.41A and B - DWD

A. The operator will be required to conduct a complete inventory of springs within and adjacent to the South Fork Breakout Area. The spring inventory should consist of spring location, geologic unit from where the spring flows and, discharge rate. Field and water quality parameters should be obtained (quarterly) from springs that yield sufficient flow. Water quality parameters for spring monitoring are enclosed. This information should be submitted by October 30, 1988.

B. The applicant should ensure that the topsoil stockpile is protected from spring flows. The applicant should evaluate spring sources in the vicinity of the proposed top soil stockpile and provide methodologies for adequate drainage in accordance with UMC 817.23. As-built plans and drawing should be submitted 30 days after the first load of topsoil is deposited on the proposed site.

dwd

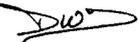
cc.

S. Linner  
R. Harden

1565R

September 30, 1988

TO: File

FROM: David W. Darby, Geologist 

RE: Technical Deficiencies Review-South Fork Canyon Breakout, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005-88-B, Utah Fuel Company, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

### Synopsis

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### Summary of Permit Review

Utah Fuel Company has not addressed the existence of springs within the South Fork Area. To refute their response, "There are no springs involved", I must state that on August 30, 1988 I examined the proposed breakout site and located several springs along the road where Utah Fuel Company intends to place their top soil stock pile.

During the first meeting when the breakout was proposed, I told Keith Zobel that a complete spring inventory needed to be conducted over the proposed breakout site.

Since the original proposal of April 27, 1988, it appears that Utah Fuel Company has not attempted to evaluate either the springs or surface water sources at the site. Both high and low seasonal flows could have been obtained by now.

If Utah Fuel Company does not intend to conduct full extraction mining within or adjacent to the breakout area the Division agrees that it is not necessary to supply subsidence monitoring information other than that committed to in the subsidence plan for the mine.

#### Conclusion and Recommendation

To ensure minimal impacts for the next 5-year permit and life of mine the operator will be required to provide the following information.

#### UMC 817.41 and UMC 817.52

The operator will be required to conduct a complete inventory of springs in the South Fork of Eccles Canyon where mining will take place and establish the flow of the tributary fed by the springs prior to conducting mining operations.

The spring inventory should be conducted prior constructing the breakout. The spring inventory should consist of spring location, geologic unit from where the spring flows and, discharge rate. Field parameters should be obtained (quarterly) from springs that yield sufficient flow and for surface flows.

This proposal is not recommended for approval until a spring inventory is conducted over and adjacent to the South Fork Breakout Site.

dwd

cc.

S. Linner  
R. Harden

1299R-44



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801-538-5340

September 29, 1988

TO: Susan C. Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: James Leatherwood, Reclamation Soils Specialist 

RE: Third South Fork Breakout Proposal, Utah Fuel Company,  
Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005-88G, Folder #2, Carbon County,  
Utah

## Summary

The proposed breakout in the South Fork of Eccles Creek, Mine #1, received September 19, 1988, has been reviewed and found to be complete and technically adequate. The requested Negative Prime Farmland Determination is accepted. The Division has determined that the South Fork Breakout area meets the criteria in UMC 783.27 paragraphs b(1), (2), and (5) and is therefore not considered a Prime Farmland.

## Recommendation

Approval of the proposed breakout operations is recommended.

WPOB51/8



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Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

September 26, 1988

TO: Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor  
FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Biologist *LK*  
RE: South Fork Breakout, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine,  
ACT/007/005 -88b, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

## Summary:

The operator's submittal received September 19, 1988 has adequately addressed the remaining concerns with the referenced ammendment. Approval of the proposal is recommended.

## Analysis:

The proposed plan has been revised to address the temporary stabilization/revegetatin of all disturbed areas associated with the breakout between the end of construction and final reclamation. The proposed plans are adequate for approval

## Recommendations:

It is recommended that the above referenced plan be approved without conditions for biological resources.

cc: R. Harden  
H. Sandbeck  
1414R/54



# State of Utah

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

September 28, 1988

TO: Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Randy Harden, Reclamation Engineer ~~RDH~~

RE: South Fork Portal Breakout, Skyline Mine, Southern Utah Fuel Company, ACT/007/005/88B, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

The following review comments are made with regard to Skyline's third submittal for the South Fork breakout (dated September 16, 1988):

UMC 817.13 - .15 Casing and Sealing of Exposed Underground Openings - JRH

The operator has adequately referenced those sections in the exiting plan regarding the temporary and permanent closure of the portals. The operator has committed to reclaim the portals in accordance with the requirements as described in the mining and reclamation plan. This is considered to be adequate.

UMC 784.13 Backfilling and Grading - JRH

The operator has indicated that coal materials excavated from the portal breakout development will be removed from the site. Consequently, there is a shortage of fill material available during reclamation. The operator has indicated that the material required to reclamation the site in accordance with the regulations will be derived from a slash area along the access road and to the northeast of the portal breakout.

Page 2  
Skyline Mine  
ACT/007/005  
September 28, 1988

Discussions with the USFS have indicated utilization of the slash area for borrow material is acceptable to them. The Forest Service has further indicated that the existing road in South Fork will be reclaimed upon cessation of mining operations in accordance with the land use agreement. In those areas which are incorporated into the permit area, the operator shall be required to include the road and the slash area into the disturbed area for the South Fork breakout. That part of the road which is not part of the permit area but on forest service property will be reclaimed in accordance with the land use permit with the forest service.

In consideration of these additional requirements, the following stipulation shall apply:

Stipulation UMC 817.101-(1) - JRH

The operator shall be required to revise the mining and reclamation plan to incorporate those sections of the South Fork Access Road and the slash area to be utilized as a borrow area for the portal breakout into the disturbed area boundaries for the permit. The operator shall submit revised drawings incorporating these facilities into the plan and modify the mining and reclamation plan to include this area. Inclusion of these facilities shall be accomplished in conjunction with the five-year permit review and shall be submitted to the Division with information required by the November 1, 1988 deadline.

UMC 800 Bonding - JRH

Information regarding inclusion of the South Fork portal breakout shall be required in conjunction with the requirements of permit renewal process. It is felt by the Division that the additional bonding amount required for the inclusion of these facilities into the plan is not significant enough to require separate additional bonding at this time. However, the operator should be aware that this area will need to be incorporated into the disturbed area identified in Exhibit "A" of the surety bond and the surety company should be made aware of the increase in disturbed area liability.

Page 3  
Skyline Mine  
ACT/007/005  
September 28, 1988

The Division shall require that a Reclamation Agreement be submitted for the revision of any bonding or insurance revisions. This form allows for revisions and tracking of the bonding and insurance process throughout the life of the mine. A copy of this Reclamation Agreement has been included in anticipation of such changes to the bond amount during the permit renewal process. This Reclamation Agreement will only be required upon the determination of a revised reclamation bond amount by the Division and is not a part of or a requirement for the approval of the South Fork facilities.

cc: B Team  
WPOB11/49-50