

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-LaSal
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

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Reply to: 2820

Date: November 27, 1989

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

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

RE: Five-Year Permit Renewal, 10/6/89 Updated Information, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Lowell:

We have reviewed the October 6, 1989, revisions and have determined that our concerns have been adequately addressed. The letter from the Bureau of Land Management, dated November 15, 1989, supports the proposed subsidence buffer zone based on a 22 degree angle-of-draw. We, therefore, consent to a buffer zone width based on a 22 degree (or greater) angle-of-draw.

During our review of the update, we found that the lower slope shown on Section "C" of Drawing 4.4.1B1 was revised in response to item 9 in our September 21, 1989, letter. Corresponding revisions to stream velocity calculations and riprap size were, however, not made in Volume 5, Section 18, page 1/18. This is a minor error which can be corrected following permit renewal.

We will reserve final consent pending review of the Technical Analysis. As discussed in our September 21, 1989 letter, we feel that the subsidence buffer zone width and the operator's statement that significant transmountain diversion of water will not occur needs to be evaluated in the Technical Analysis. The operator's statement that clays in the Blackhawk Formation will swell when wet and seal subsidence cracks, preventing dewatering of perched aquifers, also needs to be addressed in the Technical Analysis.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,


for

GEORGE A. MORRIS
Forest Supervisor