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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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January 30, 1989

TO: Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Biologist *LJK*

RE: Review of January 12, 1989 Submittal, Five-Year Permit
Renewal, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mines, ACT/007/005,
Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Summary:

The above referenced material has been reviewed for completeness and adequacy for resolving my comments incorporated in the Division's review document dated November 30, 1988. Clarification of the restoration of the riparian zone (see comment under 784.13) and land use information and plans for the loadout area (see comment under 784.13) are still needed.

Analysis:

UMC 783.19 Vegetation Information - 1k

The applicant has identified the vegetation reference areas that have been established and the portion of the disturbed area for which they will be used as the revegetation standard, including the Waste Rock Reference Area for the waste rock disposal site.

UMC 784.13 Reclamation Plan: General Requirements - 1k

In responding to the Division's concern regarding restoration of aquatic habitat and riparian revegetation, the operator has referenced a riparian revegetation plan that is not acceptable and has since been revised. Page 4-35 of the above referenced submittal makes reference to tables 4.7-G and 4.7-3 for final reclamation of the riparian zone. Table 4.7-G does not exist and is probably a typo for Table 4.7-6, which is the correct table for the handset seedlings. However, the plan identifies Table 4.7-3 as the seed mix for seeding the interspaces. Table 4.7-3 is only carried in the MRP to document the past history of riparian revegetation on site and does not meet the requirements of the regulations.

Page 2
Skyline Mines
ACT/007/005
January 30, 1989

As agreed upon in the fall of 1986, current plans for revegetation of the riparian zone consist of seeding and planting the banks with the appropriate seed mix listed on Tables 4.7-4 and 4.7-5 and adding the riparian shrub supplement on table 4.7-6.

Please correct page 4-35 to identify the current agreement for riparian revegetation.

UMC 783.22 Land Use Information - 1k
UMC 784.15 Reclamation Plan: Postmining Land Use - 1k

The applicant has removed land use information, maps, and plans which covers the loadout area and the waste rock disposal area. Pre-disturbance photos and Map 3-17 that was submitted with the original permit illustrated that the premine land use for the loadout area was primarily unimproved grazing and wildlife habitat with a small area at the lower end being fenced and used as a livestock holding area. The Division considered this map as a graphic illustration of the approved postmining land use for the loadout area and any significant change from this would constitute a change in land use which would require documentation from the landowner (other than the applicant) in support of the change, as well as specific plans showing the feasibility of the land use change and how it will be accomplished (see UMC 817.133(c)). From review of the resubmitted reclamation maps for the loadout area, it appears that most pads will not be regraded to A.O.C. and that the entire area may be used for a livestock holding area. This proposed plan is in conflict with the current approved postmining land use plans in that it is considered a change in land use. To complete the review and approval of the land use section, the following are needed:

1. Maps and plans which discuss the premining condition and use of the loadout area and waste rock disposal area.
2. Maps and plans which discuss the proposed postmining land use of these areas. Any change in land use must meet the requirements of UMC 817.133.

Recommendations:

Utah Fuel Co. needs to clarify the riparian habitat revegetation plan and provide the land use information and plans for the loadout area and the waste rock disposal area.

cc: R. Harden
BT93/69-70