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# 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

December 22, 1989

Mr. Vernal J. Mortensen  
Vice President, Utah Operations  
Coastal States Energy Company  
175 East 400 South  
Suite 800  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

*Vernal*

Dear Mr. Mortensen:

Re: Five-Year Permit Renewal, Coastal States Energy Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005, Folder 3, Carbon County, Utah

In a December 14, 1989 telephone conversation regarding the above permit renewal, Glen Zumwalt identified an inconsistency between the permit expiration date as shown in the cover letter sent with the new permit, compared with that shown in the permit. We both agreed that the expiration date shown in the permit, April 30, 1992 is the correct date. I appreciate Glen's bringing that to my attention.

In that same conversation, Glen commented on the Division's Technical Analyses (TA), specifically those parts dealing with monitoring of water levels in observation wells and the chemical monitoring of springs and seeps. Glen had a concern that the use of the term monitoring in the TA might lead to an eventual requirement for chemical monitoring of well waters in situations where piezometric monitoring is the present requirement for the wells. I believe there is sufficient detail in the permit to support the differences in monitoring requirements, and have not modified the TA for that reason. Glen noted that the TA indicated mining under Huntington was not proposed during the permit term when in fact there are development workings in place at this time. We have changed paragraph 2, page 2 of the TA from "Mining is not proposed to occur in the Huntington Creek...." to read "Full extraction mining is not proposed to occur...."

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Mr. Vernal J. Mortensen  
December 22, 1989 ...

I have enclosed the modified version of page 2 of the TA for insertion into your copy.

Sincerely,



Lowell P. Braxton  
Associate Director, Mining

vb  
Enclosure  
cc R. Hagen, OSM  
P. Rutledge, OSM  
G. Morris USFS  
G. Zumwalt, Utah Fuel Co.  
S. Linner  
PFO  
MI78/74-75

## Issues

As part of the permit renewal process, Coastal States Energy Company (Coastal) was required to resubmit the MRP for the Skyline Mine, updating the plan, including as-built designs for facilities which were proposed in the original plan, and incorporating the approved plans for the Unit Train Loadout and Waste Rock Disposal Pit, as well as all other approved changes. In addition, the operator submitted numerous amendments to the approved plan as part of the permit renewal process.

The U.S. Forest Services, as the surface landowner, has been involved in the review of the revised MRP, and has raised several issues during the renewal processing. Major concerns raised by both the Forest Service and DOGM have to do with the potential impacts of proposed underground mining operations on the Huntington Creek drainage. The major concerns are protection of perennial streams and springs from subsidence and the potential for intercepting ground water from that drainage, which would be discharged into the Eccles Creek drainage through the mine. Full extraction mining is not proposed to occur in the Huntington Creek drainage during this permit term. The operator continues to monitor both subsidence and ground water parameters as related to the current mining operation. Information gathered will be evaluated in determining whether or not the mining plan as currently proposed will be approved for subsequent permit terms. It should be noted that the approval for the specific underground mining plan discussed in the MRP only applies to this permit term and will be reevaluated at five-year renewal intervals.

All other issues raised, with the exception of those stipulations attached to the permit, have been resolved to the satisfaction of all involved agencies.

## Permit Changes

During the initial permit term several amendments to the permit were submitted and approved by DOGM, including:

Approval for access road to unit train loadout, October 8, 1985.

Approval for new noncoal waste disposal facilities, July 30, 1985.

Approval for loadout area small area exemption, May 31, 1985.

Approval for a stoker coal circuit, August 15, 1986.