



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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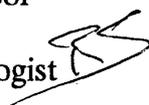
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March 4, 1992

TO: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Rick P. Summers, Senior Hydrologist 

RE: Review Coal Conveyor Revision (received December 10, 1991), Skyline Mine, Utah Fuel Co., ACT/007/005, Folder 2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY

The proposal to install a coal conveyor from the minesite to the railroad loadout at the Skyline Mine consists of installation of approximately 75 support towers with attendant loading and dumping stations at each terminus of the conveyor. The conveyor will cross Eccles Creek (a perennial stream) at one location at the current entrance to the railroad loadout. The proposal states the conveyor will be a pipe belt system that will not require transfer points and will totally enclose the coal within the conveyor system (Section 3.2.3, Pg. 3-20A). The loading and unloading facilities are to be totally enclosed and served with dust collectors.

Analysis:

The following hydrology related concerns need to be addressed prior to amendment approval:

1. The proposed activities within 100 feet of Eccles creek need to be more detailed. The planned disturbance at the loadout area needs to be specifically depicted on an appropriate map. The proposal should commit to continuing the gallery enclosing the conveyor over the Highway and Eccles Creek (including buffer zone).
2. Due to the limited success of revegetation efforts along the conveyor bench to date, more specifics are needed regarding sediment control for the tower pads and terminus operations. BCTA measures should be employed as extensively as feasible. It is recommended that additional measures such as erosion control matting and berming be used in sensitive areas until revegetation efforts are successful. A detail of the typical silt fence/straw installation is needed. The proposal needs to commit to installing sediment control measures prior

to initiation of construction activities.

3. A detailed construction plan needs to be submitted. This plan can be a separate document for amendment approval and construction inspection which will not be required to be incorporated into the MRP. A material handling plan including details and specifics of construction phase handling, stockpiling and transport of excavated material is needed. The construction plan should commit to monitoring Eccles Creek above and below construction areas for TSS and SS during active construction periods.
4. The PHC should be revised to include a worst-case belt failure and the expected impacts to the hydrologic regime.
5. The proposal needs to include a coal spill mitigation plan to include conveyor operation, maintenance and inspection details. The plan should detail the largest amount of coal that could be spilled in event of conveyor failure, how the material will be removed and disposed.
6. The proposal needs more detail and specification for the tower disturbances especially in existing ephemeral channels.
7. The proposal needs to address location(s) of buffer zone signs in Eccles Creek at the loadout.
8. The application states that the disturbed area for each tower location will be 10' x 10' (100 ft²). Any additional disturbance associated with construction of the tower pads should be given. These areas should be stated specifically to be considered enforceable limits of disturbance.
9. The disturbance associated with the inlet terminal of the conveyor at the minesite should be designed to drain to existing sedimentation pond. Details of the operations and activities associated with the terminal should be given (including mapping of facilities and disturbance). The expected increase in disturbed/redisturbed area should be explicit in the application including a demonstration that the sedimentation pond will treat the additional area.
10. The description of the disturbance, operations and activities associated with the terminal end of the conveyor at the loadout needs more detail. The application should state if the construction will result in increased disturbed

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area and be specific about the drainage for the area reporting to the sedimentation pond. If the disturbed area will increase the application should state increase and demonstrate the sedimentation pond will accommodate the expected increase.

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