



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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DATE: September 4, 1997, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
DOGM STAFF: Robert Davidson and Steve Demczak
ATTENDANTS: Dan Ferriter, Canyon Fuel Co.
RE: Waste-Rock Disposal Site, Canyon Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005, Carbon County, Utah

Purpose: Observe topsoiling and reclamation activities on Skyline's waste-rock disposal pile.

Background: The Mine Reclamation Plan (MRP) states the following for reclaiming the waste-rock pile:

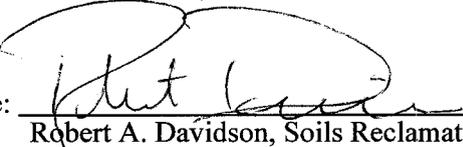
- The waste-rock pile will be reclaimed in phases as the pile advances.
- The pile will be soiled with 16 inches of subsoil and 12 inches of topsoil which both overlay at least 20 inches of non-toxic, non-acid forming refuse material. If toxic/acid forming material is present, then the soil thickness will be four feet.
- The subsoil will be taken from the general waste-rock site area where soil was pushed aside during pre-disturbance mining activities prior to development of the waste-rock site. Topsoil will be taken from the 1400 CY pile located on site and from the portal/canyon topsoil stockpile (USFS soil).
- Every 2000 tons of waste-rock and refuse material will be tested according to the Division's Guidelines for toxic/acid forming characteristics.

Field Observations:

- The majority of the waste-rock pile surface has been soiled and reclaimed this summer. Approximately the lower 1/4 slope has older vegetation with the upper slopes appearing to be reclaimed this summer.
- Reclamation work is contracted to Nelco Construction.
- All subsoil, fill and topsoil materials are coming from Nelco's borrow site. The borrow pit is a commercial site supplying soils and fills to the general public and other commercial entities.
- Spoke to Neil Sorenson, owner of Nelco Construction. The refuse pile slopes are graded to 2:1 or greater (less steep) with 22 inches of subsoil and fill being first placed directly on the refuse surface. Four inches of topsoil is then placed over the subsoil. After surface preparation, the soil is fertilized, seeded and straw mulch applied. A netting is then laid over the straw mulch.
- The subsoil, fill and topsoil have not been characterized according to the Division's Guidelines.
- Reviewed the past annual report (1996) showing analyses and characterization results for refuse and waste rock materials placed on the waste-rock pile. No toxic/acid forming problems were observed for any of the materials sampled.

Recommendations and Conclusions:

- The MRP will be amended to clarify the current reclamation procedures being used at the waste-rock site.
- The commercially supplied subsoil, fill and topsoil materials will be sampled and characterized according to the Division's Guidelines.
- The MRP amendment, which includes the soil characterization results, will be submitted within 30 days.

Signature: 
Robert A. Davidson, Soils Reclamation Specialist

on September 5, 1997