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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING
FIELD VISIT FORM
TECHNICAL

Date : March 17, 1997

Time: 12:30 P.M.

Mine: Skyline

File Number: ACT/007/005 #2

DOGM Staff: Mike Suflita

Other Attendees: Barry Barnum; Keith Zobell, Utah Fuel Co.

Purpose: Look over proposed snow storage pad and discuss with operator.

Observations

Discussed and clarified drawings with operator. Specifically, where cross-sections were taken and location of exit ditch. Also, indicated need for added info on how and when snow would be added to the pad. Then went to see the pad. The existing snow storage pad was about 60% filled with UDOT placed snow only. There is room for snow from the mine. Reportedly UDOT has been putting snow there since the road was first built. Keith indicated no snow stored on the pad by the mine.

Keith indicated the entire existing channel down to Eccles Creek is rip-rapped for erosion protection. Some rock could be seen through the snow. Water flows from the road ditches and cut slopes above the road upstream form the pad all pass through the ditch at the pad area. The snowmelt water added by the mine snow would be insignificant compared to the flows that are there otherwise.

Snow on the mine operations area is inevitably mixed with coal fines after being plowed from the roadway area. These fines would be transported to the pad area with the snow. Straw bale and silt fences are proposed to handle the fines and the mine would clean the area as required by UDOT's letter. Keeping stored snow off Forest Service property could be an issue and Keith indicated they would install markers to identify the boundary. Actually, UDOT has been storing there for some time, so it should not be a problem.

Snow removal from the operations area would reduce the flows to the sed pond and

this would be a benefit. Still the fines would have to be removed as proposed. Keith indicated that no salt or deicing chemicals are used by the mine. However, UDOT uses them on the road.

Recommendations/Conclusions

The snow storage pad, as proposed by the mine, seems to be appropriate. I see no reason to disapprove the concept, and therefore, recommend approval.

Signature: Mike Suflita Reclamation Hydrologist.
<Name>, <Title>
on March 21, 1997

cc: Daron Haddock
Steve Demczak
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