

0003



Canyon Fuel Company, LLC
Skyline Mines
HC 35 Box 380
Helper, Utah 84526
(435) 448-6463 Fax: (435) 448-2632

copy has already been sent

December 8, 1998

Mr. Dick Manus
Bureau of Land Management
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Manus:

*ACT 1003/1005 #2
Copy Joe = Daron
(2-sided)*

Skyline No. 3 Mine is completing the mining of the 4 Left longwall block in the south portion of the mine. At this time only one cut with the shear remains to be mined. This cut contains approximately seven hundred tons of coal which will be severely diluted with roof and floor rock. Additionally, we are having great difficulty holding the roof rock at the tailgate end of the face. A sketch of the tailgate end of the face is attached.

The roof control problems at the tailgate make recovery of the four shields against the tailgate very dangerous, i.e., caving is occurring not only behind the shields but also in front of and above them. In the interest of safety, we are requesting permission to leave these four shields in place in the mine. In so doing, as many of the hydraulic components as safely possible will be removed. This stripping will include one leg cylinder per shield. The volume of five percent (5%) emulsion fluid which is expected to be left in the shields will be approximately fifty gallons per shield for a total of two hundred gallons. The weight of these gate-end shields is approximately twenty-two tons and there are 166 shields total on the face, only four of which are to be left.

The 4 Left panel is the thirty-third longwall block which Skyline Mines have mined and we have never previously left a shield in a panel recovery room. The reason that it is proposed to leave shields this time is strictly for the safety of personnel recovering the face.

The anticipated date to remove the adjacent shields is December 11. Your prompt permission to leave these shields in place is requested.

Please contact Mr. Mark Bunnell (435-448-2633) or Mr. Doug Johnson (435-448-2609) with any questions.

Sincerely

for Dan Meadors
General Manager & Vice President

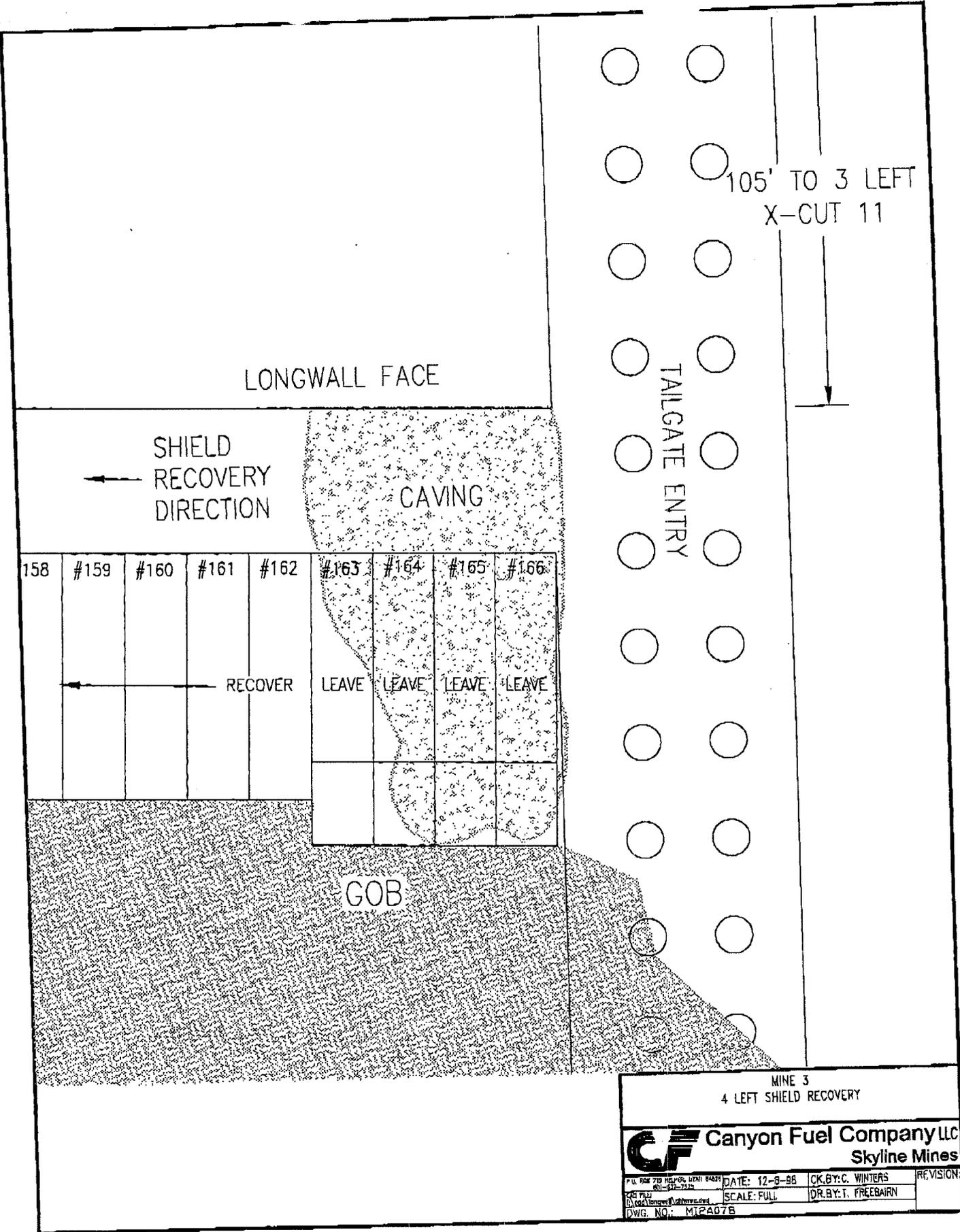
cc: Lowell Braxton, DOGM
Steve Demczak, DOGM
Aaron Howe, USFS

att.

SUFCO Mine

Soldier Canyon Mine

Skyline Mines



MINE 3
4 LEFT SHIELD RECOVERY

CF Canyon Fuel Company LLC
Skyline Mines

P.L. FROM THE MINE PLAN BOARD 601-327-2322	DATE: 12-8-98	CK. BY: C. WINTERS	REVISION:
SCALE: FULL	DR. BY: T. FREEBARN		
DWG. NO.: MTPA07B			