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Canyon Fuel Company, LLC
Skyline Mines
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FEB 11 2000

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

February 9, 2000

Coal Regulatory Program
Attn.: Pam Grubaugh-Littig
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

*Copy to Mike
Extension
letter*

RE: ~~Midterm Review Revisited~~, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Skyline Mine,
ACT/007/005-MT99

Incoming

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

On January 17, 2000, Mr. Dan Meadors, the General Manager of the Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Skyline Mines received a letter from Mr. Daron Haddock of your office requesting additional information to comply with the Division's midterm review of the Skyline M&RP. A deadline of February 14, 2000 was set for a response. The information requested included plans to eliminate UPDES discharge violations and provide information regarding the elimination of highwalls at the site at the time of final reclamation.

Currently, the engineering staff at the Skyline Mines is continuing to work on a collection, transport, treatment, and discharge system for waters encountered within the mine. The new system will include two large sumps that will increase the residence settling time of the mine waters prior to discharge. Additionally, inline instrumentation will be installed upstream of the final discharge point of the mine water discharge system. The instrumentation will include an oil and grease analyzer calibrated to detect very small amounts of emulsion oil. The analyzer will be electronically connected to a by-pass valve that will, on command from the analyzer, redirect mine discharge water into abandoned workings if oil and/or grease are detected. A pH meter and either a turbidity meter or opacity meter will also be installed in the system with similar discharge routing command capabilities as the oil and grease analyzer. Finally, the mine has received permission from the Department of Environmental Quality to discharge the mine waters directly to Eccles Creek at our existing UPDES discharge point 001. This permission is predicated upon the successful completion of the mine water collection and treatment system. It is anticipated this system will be operational within the next three months. A simple schematic diagram of the system will be delivered to your office as a courtesy as soon as possible.

We are also working on modifying the existing reclamation plan for the mine site to include reclamation of the current highwalls. This project has been somewhat more time consuming than we originally assumed. We found that none of the reclamation topography or cross-sections for the M&RP were illustrated in an electronically prepared format, i.e. AutoCad®. Additionally, the number of cross-sections illustrating existing and proposed reclamation topography needed to be significantly increased to adequately demonstrate site reclamation. Skyline Mines has contracted with Dana Sheppard of Blackhawk Engineering in Helper, Utah to prepare a reclamation topography map, cross-sectional diagrams, and cut and fill calculations. We anticipate the drawings will be done in about two weeks from today.

CFC would like to request an extension of three weeks to submit the information requested after the permit midterm review. The new date requested for submitting our response would be March 6, 2000. We believe at that time we would have all the necessary reclamation drawings and modified permit text prepared. We hope to send the mine water discharge schematic to you before the 6th of March 2000.

If you have any questions regarding this request for an extension to the midterm review response, please give me a call.

Sincerely:



Chris D. Hansen
Environmental Coordinator
Canyon Fuel Company, LLC