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OK

September 26, 2001

TO: Internal Files

THRU: Michael J. Suflita, Team Lead *MS*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Reclamation Specialist *WHW*

RE: Burial of a Water Pipeline in James Canyon, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC., Skyline Mine C/007/005-AM01H

SUMMARY:

On September 24, 2001, the Division received amendment AM01H for the Skyline Mine. The Permittee wants to bury a waterline in James Creek and reclaim it by plugging the ends and then abandoning it in place.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

RELOCATION OR USE OF PUBLIC ROADS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.18; R645-301-521, -301-526.

Analysis:

In the summer of 2001, a dewatering well was drilled in the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 35, T13 South R6 East. Access to the drill site is via a reclaimed road. The road was abandoned by Emery County shortly after the completion of construction of the Electric Lake Dam. The road was reclaimed by constructing large water bars across the road at spacing of a few hundred feet. The abandoned road surface was seeded in 1972 using a U.S. Forest Service approved seed mix. The abandoned road is located on both U. S. Forest Service land and private property.

TECHNICAL MEMO

Since the Emery County abandoned the road, the Division no longer considers it a road. Access to the site will be from a trail that construction equipment can travel on. The Division considers the area to be a trail because the access corridor was not designed or built according to engineering specification.

Findings:

The Permittee met the minimum regulatory requirements for this section.

ROAD SYSTEMS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.24, 817.150, 817.151; R645-301-521, -301-527, -301-534, -301-732.

Analysis:**Road classification system**

Access to the area will be by a reclaimed Emery County road. The Division does not consider the area to be a road, rather a trail that heavy equipment can travel on. The reason for not classifying the site as a road is that it was not designed or built according to engineering standards.

Findings:

The Permittee met the minimum regulatory requirements for this section.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

Analysis:**Affected area maps**

The locations of the pipeline and access trails are shown on DWG. No. 1.6-3, Skyline Mines Permit Area Map. Usually the Division requests that disturbed area boundary maps be at a scale of 1 inch = 100 feet. However, since the site consist of a long narrow trail that will have only minor disturbance the Division considers DWG. No. 1.6-3 to be adequate to show the location of the disturbed area boundaries.

Findings:

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section.

RECLAMATION PLAN

BACKFILLING AND GRADING

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.15, 817.102, 817.107; R645-301-234, -301-537, -301-552, -301-553, -302-230, -302-231, -302-232, -302-233.

Analysis:

General

The general plan to reclaim the pipeline is to dig up the ends, fill them with a concrete plug and then backfill the ends. The rest of the structure will remain abandoned in tack. The Division usually allows pipelines to be reclaimed in place.

The topography of the site before the pipeline is buried should be the same as after it is buried. Therefore, the AOC requirements should be met. The site should meet the backfilling and grading requirements because:

- No highwalls, spoil piles, and depressions are associated with the site.
- The slopes at the site are gentle and should have a safety factor of 1.3 or greater.
- The site should minimize erosion and water pollution both on and off the site.
- Support the approved post mining land use.

Findings:

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RECLAMATION OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-323, -301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731.

Analysis:

Reclamation backfilling and grading maps

Usually the Division requires that the Permittee provide maps and cross sections for the disturbed area boundaries that are at a scale of 1 inch = 100 feet. Because the site is very long and narrow and disturbance will be limited to installation of the pipeline the Division will not require detailed maps and cross sections for the site.

Drawing No. 1.6-3, Skyline Mines Permit Area Map, show the location of the pipeline and the associated trail. On Page 3-80 (b), the Permittee show a typical cross section for the site.

TECHNICAL MEMO

The cross section was certified but the map was not. Before the Division can approve the amendment, the Permittee will have to supply the Division with certified maps.

Findings:

Information provided in the proposed amendment is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Prior to approval, the permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

R645-301-512.130, The Permittee must give the Division certified copies of map DRG. No.: 1.6-3

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

Analysis:

Determination of bond amount

The Division calculated the reclamation cost for the James Creek pipeline to be \$3,300. The Division reviewed the total bond amount and considered the additional bond amount to be small enough that no bond adjustment is needed at this time.

Findings:

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section.