

# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

August 8, 2006

TO: Internal File

THRU: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor, Project Manager 

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Environmental Scientist/Engineering, Team Lead 

RE: Canyon Fuel Fee Coal Lease Woods Canyon, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC., Skyline Mine, C/007/005, Task ID #2592

## SUMMARY:

Canyon Fuel Company has submitted a letter of Intent to conduct Minor Exploration on Fee (private) ground. The applicant will drill one hole on Allred Family Trust surface property. This applicant will helicopter the drill equipment to the drill site. The project is schedule for August 10, 2006 and will be reclaimed two weeks later. Canyon Fuel has received landowner consent for this project.

## EXPLORATION TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

### COAL EXPLORATION

Regulatory Reference: R645-200.

### SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.1; 30 CFR 772.10; 30 CFR 772.11; R645-100-400; R645-200-100; R645-200-200; R645-201-100.

#### Analysis:

The Canyon Fuel Company has submitted a Letter of Intent to conduct minor coal exploration. The permittee will remove less than 250 tons of coal. The applicant will drill only one hole on Fee Ground. The total distance is 0.003 acres.

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## EXPLORATION TECHNICAL MEMO

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### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT MINOR COAL EXPLORATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.10; 30 CFR 772.11; R645-100-412; R645-201-200.

### Analysis:

The Division is reviewing the application and will determine if the application meets the minimum requirement of Minor Coal Exploration.

The applicant will drill one hole (E-06) and will remove less than 250 tons of coal and disturb only 0.003 acres.

The applicant has given the required name and address and the responsible representative for conducting minor exploration. See Page 2 of Notice of Intent.

The applicant has submitted a map giving the location of the drill hole (Map 1,2). The drill hole will be on Allred Family Trust surface ground. Canyon Fuel did receive permission to conduct minor exploration on their ground. See Appendix C.

Canyon Fuel Company has given a narrative describing the location and method of conducting minor exploration. The method is to helicopter the drill rig and support equipment to the drill site. A pick-up truck will be used to transport men, supplies and fuel to the site. A contractor-laying pipe will use three pick-up trucks. The company representative will also use one a pick up truck.

Total project time will be two weeks. The starting date will be August 10, 2006.

### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## COMPLIANCE DUTIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202.

The applicant will have a copy of the Letter of Intent on hand.

## **OPERATIONAL STANDARDS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-100.

### **Analysis:**

#### **Roads**

No road will be constructed. The applicant will use existing US Forest Service roads to the staging area and to the drill site. Canyon Fuels has received a road use permit to use these roads. The permit is #0410-03.

#### **Diversions of Overland flows and streams**

The drill site is not located in area of stream flow. The site is located on a southwest-facing sagebrush slope.

#### **Hydrologic Balance**

The hydrologic balance will not be affected because all fluids will be contained and transported off site. The drill cutting will be placed in containers to prevent the possibility of acid and toxic material contaminating the ground and surface waters. These cutting will be transported to the Skyline waste rock site. If acid and toxic material is found in the cutting, they will be covered with 4 feet of material.

The drill pad is located in a stream channel.

All drilling equipment will have brattice beneath.

The applicant has received a temporary Change of Water from the Division of Water Right, State of Utah. Canyon Fuels will transport water from the Skyline Mine to the drill pad.

No perennial or intermittent streams will be crossed to gain access to the drill rig.

All drilling liquids will be contained and transported away.

#### **Acid- or toxic forming materials**

These cutting will be transported to the Skyline waste rock site. If acid and toxic material is found in the cutting, they will be covered with 4 feet of material.

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### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## RECLAMATION STANDARDS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-200.

### Analysis:

#### Approximate original contour

The applicant will return the area to approximate original contour. The disturbance will be leveling the drill rig using shovels. The total disturb area will be 0.003 acres.

#### Boreholes

Upon completion of the drill hole the applicant will fill the hole with a cement/bentonite slurry mixture. The hole will be completely filled with this mixture. A brass tag will be placed on top of the hole giving operator's name, drill hole number, and legal description.

#### Facilities and Equipment

No facilities or equipment will be left after drilling is completed. The pad will be reclaimed.

### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

## PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.15;R645-203.

### Analysis:

The applicant does not want to make any drilling information available to the public.

### Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The applicant has met the minimum requirements of a Letter of Intent to conduct Minor Coal Exploration. The Applicant should receive approval to conduct Minor Exploration.

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