

# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

---

October 20, 2006

OR

TO: Internal File

THRU: *DWH* D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor  
*DD* Dana Dean, Team Lead

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Environmental Scientist III *WHW*

RE: New Sedimentation Pond at Waste Rock Site, Canyon Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, C/007/0005, Task #2634

**SUMMARY:**

On September 5, 2006, the Division received an amendment from Canyon Fuel Company to move the sedimentation pond at its waste-rock disposal site. The current pond is in an area that can be filled in order to extend the life of the facility for 5-6 years. The new pond is directly north of the old pond and is designed to capture runoff from the same watershed.

**TECHNICAL MEMO**

---

**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

**PERMIT AREA**

Regulatory Requirements: 30 CFR 783.12; R645-301-521.

**Analysis:**

The Permittee must clarify the statements on page 3-46 about the increases in the lease acreages and the decrease in the right-of-way. Do the changes affect the permitted or disturbed acreages?

On the C1 form, the Permittee states that there is no change in the disturbed area when in fact there is a small increase in the disturbed area.

**Findings**

**R645-301-121.200**, The Permittee must clarify the statements on page 3-46 about the increases in the lease acreages and the decrease in the right-of-way. Do the changes affect the permitted or disturbed acreages? In addition, the Permittee must also correct the C1 form to show that the amendment will require an increase in the disturbed area.

**OPERATION PLAN**

**MINING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.2, 784.11; R645-301-231, -301-526, -301-528.

**Analysis:**

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section. The Permittee proposes to modify the existing waste rock site (refuse pile) to that the existing pond can be filled in and a

new pond constructed. By changing the location of the sediment pond, the Permittee will gain additional storage.

**Findings:**

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations.

**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**

The Permittee did not meet the requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee needs to classify the road that will be "built up" in the rock disposal area. Note: if the road will remain as part of the postmining land use then the road must be classified as primary.

**Plans and Drawings**

The Permittee did not meet the requirements of this section. The Permittee must include plans and drawings for the Jeep trail that will be "built up."

**Performance Standards**

The Permittee is required to meet all performance standards.

**Primary Road Certification**

The Permittee is required to have all primary road designs certified.

**Findings:**

The information provided in the proposed amendment is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Before approval, the Permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

**R645-301-527 and R645-301-534**, The Permittee must classify the road that will be "built-up" as either primary or ancillary. If the road is scheduled to remain after reclamation, then the Permittee must classify the road as primary. The Permittee

---

TECHNICAL MEMO

---

must also provide detailed road designs and cross sections. If the road is classified as a primary road then the Permittee must have the designs certified.

## **SPOIL AND WASTE MATERIALS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 701.5, 784.19, 784.25, 817.71, 817.72, 817.73, 817.74, 817.81, 817.83, 817.84, 817.87, 817.89; R645-100-200, -301-210, -301-211, -301-212, -301-412, -301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-521, -301-526, -301-528, -301-535, -301-536, -301-542, -301-553, -301-745, -301-746, -301-747.

### **Analysis:**

#### **Refuse Piles**

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section. The Permittee will slightly modify the existing refuse pile so that the existing sediment pond can be filled in and a new pond be constructed. The new configuration will increase the storage capacity of the refuse pile. The proposal does not significantly change the operation of the refuse pile.

### **Findings:**

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations.

## **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:**

#### **Mining Facilities Maps**

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee must update the operational map for the waste rock site to show the new location of the sediment pond.

#### **Certification Requirements**

The Permittee is required to meet the certification requirements.

### **Findings:**

**R645-301-521.143**, The Permittee must update the existing operational maps for the waste rock site to show the location of the new sediment pond.

## 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 Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee must state why the modification to the refuse pile will continue to meet the minimum reclamation requirements.

#### Findings:

**R645-301-553**, The Permittee must state why the modified refuse pile will still meet the minimum reclamation requirements. Those requirements include but are not limited to: ● safety factor of 1.3 or greater, ● prevent slides, ● minimize erosion and water pollution both on and off the site and ● support the postmining land use. The Permittee could state what approved design criteria and state how the modifications would meet those requirements.

### ROAD SYSTEMS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 701.5, 784.24, 817.150, 817.151; R645-100-200, -301-513, -301-521, -301-527, -301-534, -301-537, -301-732.

#### Analysis:

##### Reclamation

The Permittee did not meet the requirements of this section. The Permittee must include a reclamation plan for the “built-up” section of the road. The Permittee and the landowner have expressed the desire to leave the road/Jeep trail in place after reclamation. While an alternative postmining land use is possible, the Division still needs a reclamation plan to reclaim the area without the road.

---

**TECHNICAL MEMO**

---

**Retention**

The Permittee must include plans and cross sections to show that the “built-up” section of the road/Jeep trail meets the requirements for a retained road.

**Findings:**

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee must state why the modification to the refuse pile will continue to meet the minimum reclamation requirements.

**R645-301-534.300**, The Permittee must either show that the “built-up” Jeep trail will be reclaimed or that the road will meet the requirements for road retention after final reclamation.

**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:**

**Bonded Area Map**

The Permittee showed the location of the bonded area (disturbed area) on Map 4.16.1-1B.

**Reclamation Backfilling And Grading Maps**

The Permittee showed the configuration of the waste rock site after backfilling and grading have been completed on Map 4.16.1-1B.

**Reclamation Facilities Maps**

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section. The Permittee must show the location of any roads that will remain after final reclamation.

**Final Surface Configuration Maps**

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements for this section of the regulations. Map 4.16.1-1B and Map 4.16.1-1C do not show the contour line for at least 100 feet outside of the disturbed area.

### **Certification Requirements.**

#### **Findings:**

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee must state why the modification to the refuse pile will continue to meet the minimum reclamation requirements.

**R645-301-542.320**, The Permittee must show the location all roads that will be left after final reclamation.

## **BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

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

#### **Analysis:**

##### **Determination of Bond Amount**

The Permittee did not meet the requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee must include revised reclamation costs for the waste rock site. Those cost must include the additional earthwork needed to reclaim the site and revegetation costs.

#### **Findings:**

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section of the regulations. The Permittee must state why the modification to the refuse pile will continue to meet the minimum reclamation requirements.

**R645-301-830.140**, The Permittee must submit updated reclamation costs that are associated with the modifications at the waste rock site.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Division should deny the amendment until all of the above mentioned deficiencies have been adequately addressed.