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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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FINDINGS DOCUMENT
Utah Coal Regulatory Program

PID: C0070005
TaskID: 4407
Mine Name: SKYLINE MINE
Title: NORTH LEASE PERMIT MODIFICATION

Environmental Resource Information

Hydro Baseline Information

Meets Requirements

Analysis:

In response to baseline water monitoring related deficiencies listed in Task No. 4397, the Applicant has submitted one addition sampling event at all North Lease Expansion Area monitoring locations as requested. The MRP was updated with this information as well as the Peterson Hydrologic report and the Spring and Seep Survey report in Appendix L of the PHC. With these additional samples, the Applicant has collected low and high flow samples for each site at least once.

The MRP was updated to include instruction all sampling locations within the North Lease Expansion Area will be monitored until mining begins in the area, which is at least into 2014. After mining begins in the area the MRP has been updated to indicate that monitoring location S26-1, S25-32, and CS-26 (Lower Wife Creek) will be monitored for operational parameters.

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Hydro Probable Consequences Determination

Meets Requirements

Analysis:

The PHC was updated to include the new Fall 2013 baseline sampling events. The data collected from this sampling was consistent with data recorded from past sampling events and provides a clearer view of the nature of the springs and streams in the North Lease Expansion Area. Table 2 of the "Summary of the Spring and Seep Survey and Baseline Monitoring Activities in the Wife and Andrew Dairy Canyon Areas, 2011-2013" was corrected to categorize the spring and stream locations correctly.

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CHIA

CHIA

Analysis:

The addition of the North Lease Expansion Area to the Skyline Lease area required a change to the current Cumulative Impact Area of the Mud Creek – Upper Huntington Creek Basin boundaries. The CHIA had boundaries that went as far North as Granger Ridge and with the new expansion area, this boundary was moved further North to include the Andrew Dairy and Wife Creek tributaries to Fish Creek. The North Lease Expansion area includes 770 acres, 690 of which are in the Fish Creek Drainage.

In addition to changing the boundary of the Cumulative Impact Area, the CHIA report was also updated. Information regarding the North Lease Expansion was included in the Introduction of the report as well as information in Sections II, III, and IV. The report was updated using information gathered in the Applicant's updated PHC including a report by Peterson Hydrologic in Appendix L of the PHC, the USGS monitoring station on Fish Creek (station 09310500), and baseline water monitoring data gathered by the Applicant.

Using the information gathered in the updated CHIA the Division has found that the proposed mining of the North Lease Expansion Area has been designed to prevent material damage to the hydrologic balance.

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