

C/007/005 Incoming
cc: Priscilla
Lisa

File Code: 2820
Date: September 23, 2015

Daron R. Haddock
Coal Program Manager
Coal Regulatory Program
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

RECEIVED
SEP 25 2015
DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Mr. Haddock:

In response to your letter dated July 29, 2015 we have reviewed the Swens Canyon Ventilation Facility permit application submitted by Canyon Fuel Company, LLC. Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on this permit application.

On May 20, 2014 an onsite visit was conducted where the Skyline mine introduced the Swens Canyon Ventilation Facility project to Forest Service resource specialists at the project site location. This onsite visit gave the resource specialists an opportunity to provide comments and concerns to the mine in preparation for the mine developing their permit application. The primary resource concerns identified by resource specialist were:

- Visual impacts to the scenic byway caused by the development of an above ground powerline
- Visual impacts to the scenic byway caused by the development of a ventilation facility
- The proposed powerline route crossing through a timber sale area
- Cultural and wildlife surveys needing to be completed

The mine has adequately addressed these concerns by doing the following:

- Burying the powerline through the bottom of the canyon and under HWY 264 and adjusting the powerline route to avoid ridgelines thereby mitigating scenic view shed impacts to scenic byway passerby's
- Adjusting the vent shaft pad design and top soil placement to buffer the pad to the extent possible from passerby view shed
- Adjusted the powerline route to avoid concerns and conflicts with timber sale area
- Completed cultural and wildlife surveys and will avoid sites and seasons of impact

We appreciate the process by which this project proposal has occurred and our ability to work together with the mine by incorporating project design features that address our concerns prior to



the permit application being submitted. We feel that the permit application complies with our Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and that upon final reclamation post mining land use will not change from what land use exists today.

Should there be a need for additional clarification, please contact Kyle Beagley, Minerals Specialist, at 435-636-3577.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Pentecost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

BRIAN PENTECOST
Forest Supervisor