



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

February 5, 2019

Corey Heaps, Mine Manager  
Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
HC 35 Box 380  
Helper, Utah 84526

Subject: Conditional Approval of Swens Pad Interim Design, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC,  
Skyline Mine, C/007/0005, Task #5846

Dear Mr. Heaps:

The above-referenced amendment is approved conditioned upon receipt of 2 clean copies prepared for incorporation. Please submit these copies by March 5, 2019. Once we receive these copies, final approval will be granted.

A stamped incorporated copy of the approved plans will also be returned to you at that time, for insertion into your copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5350.

Sincerely,

Steve Christensen  
Permit Supervisor

SKC/sqs

cc: Gregg Galecki, CFC

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**Technical Analysis and Findings**

**Utah Coal Regulatory Program**

**PID:** C0070005  
**TaskID:** 5846  
**Mine Name:** SKYLINE MINE  
**Title:** SWENS PAD INTERIM DESIGN

**Operation Plan**

**Hydrologic Sediment Control Measures**

*Analysis:*

The amendment meets the State of Utah R645 requirements for Sediment Control Measures.

The amendment updates the Swens Canyon Shaft Pad Layout and sediment control measures implemented at the pad. A sediment pond was initially designed to contain cuttings produced at the surface during the blind bore shaft construction of the ventilation shaft. Blind bore shafts are bored from the surface down to the workings and produce a significant amount of cuttings material at the surface as the shaft descends downward. The ventilation shaft was instead constructed using the alternative raise bore technique also outlined in the MRP. Using the raise bore method the large diameter ventilation shaft was constructed from the mine workings up to the surface. The cuttings produced during the raise bore construction were gobbled underground and/or removed at the mine's portals. Since the raise bore shaft construction did not produce cuttings at the Swens Canyon disturbance area the cuttings pond was never developed.

The amendment removes the cuttings pond from the MRP because it was never developed at the Swens pad. The cuttings pond has been removed from Drawing 3.2.4-4A and Appendix A-5, "Skyline Mine, Swen Canyon Ventilation Shaft Pad Design Report" has a supplemental page providing a narrative as to why the cuttings pond was never developed.

kstorrar

**Reclamation Plan**

**Bonding Determination of Amount**

*Analysis:*

The amendment meets the State of Utah R645 requirements for Determination of Bonding Amount.

R645-301-830: This amendment was previously deficient because earthwork costs were not adequately addressed. Since the Swens Canyon Ventilation Shaft was constructed via raise bore methods no excess fill remained after the shaft was drilled. For this reason, fill material (and especially engineered fill materials such as bentonite, sand, and concrete) would need to be imported to the site upon reclamation, a cost not previously contemplated in the bond. Updated calculations propose an increase to the earthwork portion of the bond by \$169,381. Together with the \$28,010 that is proposed to demolish additional structures at Swens pad, and accounting for indirect costs plus escalation the total increase to the reclamation bond amounts to exactly \$250,000, augmenting the previous bond liability from \$5,261,000 to \$5,511,000. Although this amendment proposes a modest increase to the reclamation bond, Permittee remains adequately bonded since the current posted bond amounts to \$5,799,000.

jeatchel