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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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February 13, 1992

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Henry Sauer, Senior Reclamation Soils Specialist 

RE: Coal Exploration CEP 007/006-92B, Cyprus-Plateau Mining Company, Star Point Mine, ACT/007/006, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Synopsis

Cyprus-Plateau Mining Company (CPM) has submitted an exploration application, received February 6, 1992, for coal exploration in and around Yellow Brush Basin and Wild Cattle Hollow. The application has been reviewed and determined to be deficient. The issues enumerated below must be adequately addressed prior to the issuance of the requested exploration permit.

The Division, in cooperation with other land management agencies and in accordance with 30 CFR, Ch. 7, Subchapter G, Part 772, Section 772.11, must determine, at the discretion of the regulatory authority, whether or not coal exploration operations may be further required to comply with the applicable standards of 30 CFR, Part 816 through 828. A finding of substantial or nonsubstantial disturbance to the natural land surface cannot be rendered at this time. More information clarifying the type and amount of disturbance must be provided and approved prior to the issuance of an exploration permit.

Analysis

R645-301-521.140 Mine Maps and Permit Area Maps

The applicant must delineate the boundaries of all areas proposed to be affected by exploration activities which have not been previously disturbed.

R645-301-222 Soil Survey

The applicant must provide pedon descriptions for all soils to be disturbed. This would include all soil series found with in each soil complex and association mentioned within the

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original submittal. For example, C26 Taxonomic Unit (711) must include the technical description of each diagnostic horizon within the pedon and the technical and nontechnical (i.e., family, greatgroup, etc.) description of all other dissimilar series found within the soil complex (i.e., C22 and C9).

R645-301-232 Topsoil and Subsoil Removal

The applicant states that topsoil will be removed "...where required." Topsoil will be removed as a separate layer from the area to be disturbed, and segregated. An exception to this requirement may be granted by the division where the operator can demonstrate that sections 233.710 and/or 232.720 apply.

The applicant must specify the depth of topsoil removed and segregated from each soil series disturbed. In addition, the excavation method employed to exact the topsoil removal depths must be described.

The applicant may choose to incorporate small shrubs in with the excavated and stockpiled topsoil. This will provide some erosion protection, augment the inherent seed source and contribute to the organic matter content of the soil upon redistribution.

R645-301-234 Topsoil Storage

The requirements of this section must be fulfilled in relation to the topsoil removed during exploration activities. Please submit specific plans to fulfill the requirements of this section.

R645-301-242 Soil Redistribution

The applicant refers to the preparation of the reclaimed sites. The applicant must specify the methods utilized to protect the topsoil from wind and water erosion.

Compaction of the drill pads and roads is likely to occur, therefore, the operator must commit to scarifying the regraded spoils/subsoil prior to or immediately after topsoil redistribution.

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CPM.EXP