

0006

Mine File
White head Act/007/007



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202



DEC 8 1986

RECEIVED
DEC 10 1986

Mr. Lowell Braxton, Administrator
Mineral Resource Development and Reclamation Program
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Mr. Braxton:

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) has completed an initial review of the Sunnyside No. 5 mine permit application. Our comments are enclosed. Comments by other Federal agencies will be forwarded upon receipt by this office.

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact Mr. David Costain, Project Leader for the Sunnyside No. 5 mine.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]
For Ranvir Singh, Chief
Federal Lands Branch

Enclosure

Sunnyside No. 5 Initial Review Comments
by the
The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

1. UMC 782.15 The applicant has not demonstrated right of entry for some lands within the proposed permit area, including certain Federal lands. The applicant must provide a complete description of the documents upon which the applicant bases his legal right to enter and begin underground coal mining activities. Lands for which the applicant has no right to enter must be deleted from the proposed permit area. All maps, legal descriptions and other references must be revised accordingly.

Map S5-1 does not show clearly all subsurface owners for portions of sections 4, 5, 9, 10, 14, 15, 22 and 23, T14S, R13E. The map must be revised to show ownership for all properties.

2. UMC 783.13, 783.15, and 783.17. The applicant states that mining in the permit area will not have a significant impact on the quality or quantity of surface or ground water (page 783.17-1). However, quantitative analyses appear lacking of impacts to ground-water levels and to capabilities of ground-water systems to store and conduct ground waters. The applicant must identify, where possible, impacts to specific water rights, other developed water resources, springs and seeps.

The applicant states under UMC 817.54 that the water supply of any owner of interest will be replaced. The applicant must describe what types of monitoring will be done to assess impacts to specific water rights.

3. UMC 783.20. The wildlife map (S5-26) shows mule deer summer range in the West Ridge area. Below this plateau, mule deer winter range has been designated. The proposed No. 5 mine facilities area and access road lie between summer and winter ranges.

The applicant must address the presence or potential for wildlife migration corridors between these areas. Impacts on wildlife use of these corridors from mining activities must be identified and mitigation measures proposed.

4. UMC 784.19. The applicant states disposal of underground development waste from the No. 5 Mine area will not significantly impact the Sunnyside Mines coarse refuse disposal facility. However, the application does not appear to contain the data and analyses necessary to support this assertion. The applicant must provide an estimate of the quantity of underground waste from the No. 5 mine and show that the existing facility is of sufficient size to handle this waste.

5. UMC 784.21. Wildlife monitoring plans are referenced but not discussed. The applicant must describe the type of monitoring to be conducted. Ongoing impacts to nesting raptors and other wildlife must be assessed.

A discussion must be provided on possible measures to mitigate adverse impacts to wildlife use of springs and seeps.

6. UMC 784.24. Map S5-4B shows the access road ending at the proposed permit boundary. The applicant must provide information showing that the access road beyond this point is in another permit area for the Sunnyside mines or is a public road. If neither of these conditions apply, the applicant must revise the application to include the entire access road.

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