

# Sunnyside Coal Company

File 1+5

Operations • Highway 123 • P.O. Box 99 • Sunnyside, Utah 84539

April 15, 1991

RECEIVED

APR 18 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Mr. Henry Sauer  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Sauer:

Re: NonCombustible Fill Used On West Slurry Cell Dike

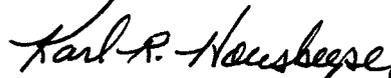
Per our phone conversations today, I am enclosing copies of the fire extinguishing plans and the M.E.S.A. (now M.S.H.A.) responses and approvals that I faxed to you.

By following the requirements of M.E.S.A. or M.S.H.A., removal of the noncombustible fill placed on the dike of the West Slurry Cell would be in violation of our fire extinguishing plan required and approved by M.S.H.A.

If the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining or O.S.M. desires to pursue the removal of noncombustible material from the dike of the West Slurry Cell, a resolution will need to be sought with M.S.H.A.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,



Karl R. Houskeeper  
Environmental Coordinator

KRH:dp

Enclosures

cc: Joe Fielder  
Gary Gray  
Jerry Howell

**Corporate Offices**  
The Registry  
1113 Spruce Street  
Boulder, CO 80302  
303-938-1506  
FAX: 303-938-5050

**Sales Office**  
1350 17th Street  
Suite 350  
Denver, CO 80202  
303-534-3348  
FAX: 303-825-8626

**West Coast Division**  
1345 Astoria Drive  
Fairfield, CA 94533  
707-425-4506

**Operations**  
Highway 123  
P.O. Box 99  
Sunnyside, UT 84539  
801-888-4421  
FAX: 801-888-2581



# United States Department of the Interior

MINING ENFORCEMENT AND SAFETY ADMINISTRATION  
COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 15037  
DENVER, COLORADO 80215

DISTRICT 9

March 15, 1976

In Reply Refer To:  
EMS - H&S 3-1-8

John Schmidt, Safety Director  
Kaiser Steel Corporation  
Box D  
Sunnyside, Utah 84539

**RECEIVED**

APR 18 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Re: Sunnyside Preparation Plant  
Tailings Pond

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Following the inspection of the subject disposal site on February 26, 1976, by Bill Denning, a question arose as to the classification of this facility. The regulations as written in Sections 77.216 and 77.217, 30 CFR 77, are quite specific. Section 77.217(c) defines an impounding structure as "...a structure which is used to impound water, sediment, or slurry, or any combination of such materials." Based on this definition the subject tailings pond must be classified as an impounding structure. Thus, this facility will be governed by the regulations in Section 77.216, 30 CFR 77.

The following identification number has been assigned to this site:

1211-UT-9-0017

The following action must be taken by your company in accordance with the applicable regulations:

1. Place an identification marker at the site by May 1, 1976. This marker is described in Section 77.216-1, 30 CFR 77.
2. Submit a plan as specified in Section 77.216-2 by May 1, 1976.
3. Submit a plan as required by Section 77.216(e) for the extinguishment of the fire at the site.
4. Submit and have approved a program for inspection of the impoundment by May 1, 1976. This program is specified in Section 77.216-3(e).



If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Bill Denning of this office at (303)234-2293.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harold E. Dolan  
Supervisory Mining Engineer

*Henry*

**KAISER  
STEEL**

KAISER STEEL CORPORATION  
SUNNYSIDE COAL MINES  
SUNNYSIDE, UTAH 84539  
TELEPHONE 801-888-4421

March 26, 1976

**RECEIVED**

APR 18 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Mr. John W. Barton  
District Manager 9  
Mining Enforcement & Safety  
Administration  
P. O. Box 15037  
Denver, Colorado 80215

Dear Sir:

Subject: Refuse Pile Fire Extinguishing Plan

Enclosed you will find two copies of Kaiser's proposed Fire Extinguishing Plan.

This plan covers the refuse pile located on Kaiser's property in Sunnyside, Utah. The identification number for this site is 1211-UT-9-0017

Yours truly,

KAISER STEEL CORPORATION

*J. T. Paluso*

J. T. Paluso  
Asst. Chief Mine Engineer

JTP/m  
Enclosures  
cc/Joe Freeman

**RECEIVED**  
MAR 31 1976  
DISTRICT 9  
MESA  
DENVER, CO.

REFUSE PILE FIRE EXTINGUISHING REPORT

Kaiser Steel Corporation  
Sunnyside, Utah

March 26, 1976

No active flames are visible on Kaiser's refuse pile; however, there are several areas where smoke is visible. These hot areas are shown in Figure 1.

All areas, except Site 1, will be treated as follows:

Where possible the slope of the refuse material will be reduced. This material will then be covered with a sufficient depth of soil to prevent the intrusion of air.

Site 1, due to the steepness of the slopes and the hazards involved, will have to be treated differently. The existing slope will be covered from the bottom up with compacted soil. See Figure 2, Zone 1. An approach road will be constructed to the toe of the slope where layered placement of the soil will begin.

The area below (Zone 2) will be used as a future disposal site for mine refuse. This material will be placed in accordance with the new Federal regulations on refuse disposal. The refuse will then be covered with soil. This additional refuse will aid in extinguishing the fire in Site 1.

SITE 1  
(Side View)

- Zone 1 Compacted soil placed from the bottom up to extinguish existing fires.
- Zone 2 This area will be used as a future disposal site for mine refuse.
- Zone 3 Soil placed over the mine refuse to prevent possible fires.

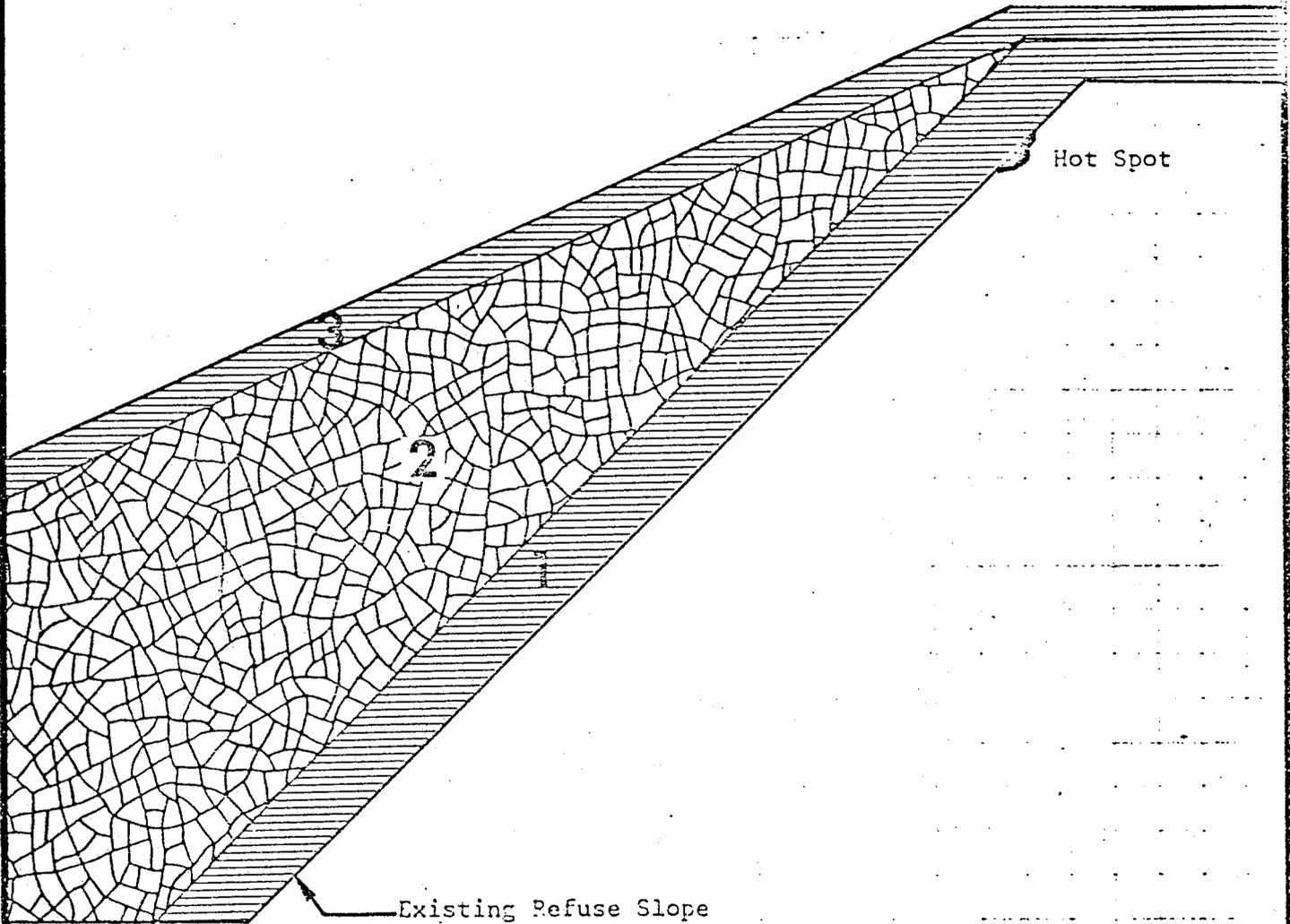


FIGURE 2

KAISER STEEL CORP.  
SUNNYSIDE MINES

SCALE None

DRAWN BY T. Paluso

DATE 3-25-76



# United States Department of the Interior

MINING ENFORCEMENT AND SAFETY ADMINISTRATION  
COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY  
POST OFFICE BOX 15037  
DENVER, COLORADO 80215

DISTRICT 9

April 5, 1976

In Reply Refer To:  
EMS - H&S 3-1-8

J. T. Paluso  
Asst. Chief Mine Engineer  
Kaiser Steel Corporation  
Sunnyside Coal Mines  
Sunnyside, Utah 84539

Re: Slurry Impoundment  
I.D. No. 1211-UT-9-0017  
Fire Extinguishing Plan

Dear Mr. Paluso:

The fire extinguishing plan submitted on March 26, 1976, for the subject slurry impoundment has been approved by this office. Please submit a schedule showing tentative start-up and completion dates for the work required by this plan.

Please note that Section 77.215(h) requires that all refuse be disposed of in compacted layers not to exceed two (2) feet in thickness with maximum slopes of 2.0 horizontal to 1.0 vertical (approximately 27°). These specifications apply to all material to be placed in extinguishing the fires and all additions to the existing slurry impounding structure.

Sincerely yours,

*John W. Barton*  
John W. Barton  
District Manager *BCA*

Enclosure

**RECEIVED**

APR 18 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING



**KAISER  
STEEL**

KAISER STEEL CORPORATION  
SUNNYSIDE COAL MINES  
SUNNYSIDE, UTAH 84539  
TELEPHONE 801-888-4421

May 24, 1976

Mr. John W. Barton  
District Manager 9  
Mining Enforcement and  
Safety Administration  
P. O. Box 15037  
Denver, Colorado 80215

Re: Slurry Impoundment  
I.D. No. 1211-UT-9-0017  
Fire Extinguishing Plan  
R&S 3-1-8

Dear Mr. Barton:

We have received your approval letter concerning the fire extinguishing plan submitted by Kaiser Steel Corporation. It will take approximately one year (6-1-77) to complete the approved extinguishing plan.

One of the restrictions stipulated by your department was that all material used to extinguish the fire shall be placed on a maximum 2:1 slope. If this procedure was followed it would require over one million cubic yards of dirt to cover the slope. This method is very prohibitive, not only in cost but in the loss of refuse storage space.

If the material used for extinguishing the fire cannot be placed steeper than 2:1 slope, it will be necessary to place the dirt as the refuse pile increases in height. This method will require approximately 10-15 years to cover the fire.

Sincerely yours,

KAISER STEEL CORPORATION

*J. T. Paluso*

J. T. Paluso  
Ass't. Chief Mine Engineer

JTP:dm

Enclosure

**RECEIVED**

APR 18 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

SITE 1  
(Side View)

- Zone 1 Compacted soil placed from the bottom up to extinguish existing fires.
- Zone 2 This area will be used as a future disposal site for mine refuse.
- Zone 3 Soil placed over the mine refuse to prevent possible fires.

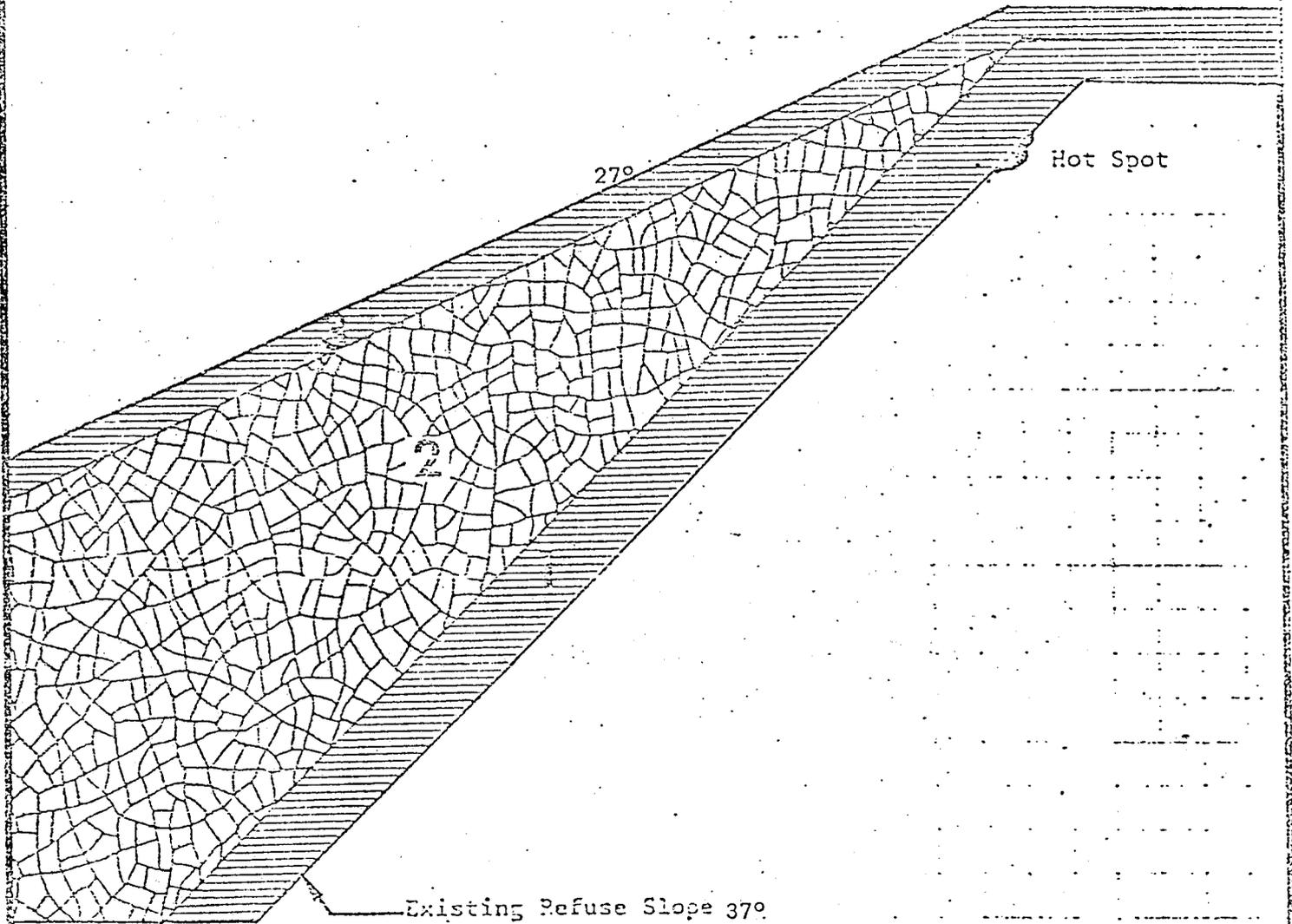


FIGURE 2

KAISER STEEL CORP.  
SUNNYSIDE MINES

SCALE None

DRAWN BY T. Paluso

DATE 3-25-75