

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/009

File Name: Incoming

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From:

Person N/A

Company Eureka Energy Company

Date Sent: April 17, 1981

Explanation:

OSM Apparent Completeness Review

cc:

File in: C/007, 009, Incoming

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

OSM ACR-DRAFT
EUREKA

FILE

ACT/007/009

Sage Point-Dugout Canyon Mines
Eureka Energy Company
OSM Apparent Completeness Review

771.27 Verification of Application

The verification of the application has not been notarized.

782.13 Identification of Interests

(e) Kaiser Steel Corporation is shown on the coal ownership map, but is not listed in the narrative section. These parts of the plan should be correlated.

Coal ownership has been provided but other subsurface owners of minerals other than coal have not been included. The regulation also requires the names and addresses of all subsurface areas contiguous to any part of the proposed permit area.

(f) The name of the proposed project is given, but MSHA has deferred assigning a mine identification number. The number should be provided as soon as it is available.

782.15 Right of Entry and Operation Information

(a) Information must be provided on what the applicant bases its legal right to enter land owned by LaRue Layne, et al, which appears to be designated for surface facilities (Drawing 03-0004).

A long-term lease is being sought for State of Utah; however, right-to-enter information for state-owned surface areas is also required before a permit can be issued.

Descriptions of some of the lands do not seem to match their placement on the ownership map: Area 6 as shown on the map should be NW 1/4 SW 1/4 not NW 1/4 SE 1/4. The applicant must correlate the written descriptions with the map.

782.18 Personal Injury and Property Damage Insurance Information

The applicant does not break its insurance into components (i.e., bodily injury, property damage or single or aggregate incidences). The policy states that the applicant has \$3,000,000 excess of \$2,000,000 self-insured retention in general and automobile insurance from Associated Electric and Gas Insurance Services, Limited of Hamilton, Bermuda. This is not a sufficient explanation of the applicant's insurance program. The policy must be broken down into the above components.

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782.21 Newspaper Advertisement and Proof of Publication

Proof of newspaper advertisement was to be made part of the complete application no later than 5 January 1981. The copy of the plan which has been reviewed does not include a proof of advertisement. This must be provided.

783.14 Geology Description

Information included under geology and mining sections indicates that there may be geologic hazards. The company should address this topic giving their assessment of potential geologic hazards including practices to eliminate or mitigate these hazards.

783.15 Ground Water Information

The estimate of the hydraulic gradient provided on page 11-67 cannot be accurately utilized unless well completion information (including locations of the perforations) on the Walton well is provided. Also, Table IV-B.1: Column heading "Altitude of Perforated Zone," should read "Depth from Surface to Perforated Zone."

783.19 Vegetation Information

The sampling intensity of vegetation data collection (p. 11-280) of cover and productivity on potentially disturbed communities and reference areas should be sufficient to detect a 10% change in the mean with 90% statistical confidence or with 80% statistical confidence on shrublands. A vegetation community or reference area may be considered a shrubland where shrub cover is 30% or more of the total vegetative cover. The density of woody plant species should be sampled at an intensity sufficient to detect a 10% change in the mean with 80% confidence. These sampling intensities are necessary for baseline data collection and selection of reference areas to be consistent with the level of accuracy required for assessment of revegetation success, as required by UMC 817.117.

The applicant has not demonstrated that the selected references are similar to potentially disturbed communities with respect to cover and production (p. 11-299). This demonstration must be made for each potentially disturbed community (including the "form and weed" community) or the applicant should propose an alternative for assessing revegetation success. The applicant should specifically state the size and range condition of each reference area selected.

A definition for the term "cover" is needed to define its use in the vegetation section.

783.20 Fish and Wildlife Resource Information

The applicant should document the permission by Utah DOGM to forego further aquatic macroinvertebrate study (p. I-322).

The applicant should have used the same habitat types in the species list as those described in 2.1, Wildlife Habitats. This would permit easier assessment of the species affected by mine disturbance as outlined in the table on p. II-405.

Maps of mule deer migration routes would strengthen the applicant's claim that such routes will be relatively unaffected.

783.21 Soil Resource Information

No raw data for soil analyses have been provided--only summaries. The data must be provided. 2,2,8

Analysis of overburden and topsoil must be provided to determine if topsoil substitutes can or should be used.

784.11 Operation Plan: General Requirements

Parameters used to figure minable reserves included a mining limit boundary of 500 feet from the outcrop. It is recognized that oxidation, including burning, may penetrate more or less than 500 feet from the actual outcrop of the coal seam. Before any mining is arbitrarily stopped 500 feet short of the outcrop, site specific plans will be submitted to the USGS-CD for review and approval. The Geological Survey proposed that with the concurrences of the surface interest some coal within the 500-foot boundary can be recovered in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner. These locations may be site specific.

The mine plan for a logical mining unit under 30 CFR 211.10(c)(6)(ii) must show the mining of all the reserves in a period of not more than 40 years. The complete recovery period is shown as 46 years for the Dugout Canyon Mine No. 2. Rather than redraft the underground mine plans to reflect the 40-year depletion, USGS will accept a formal statement from Eureka of a proposal to reduce the mine life to 40 years. Future revisions of the mine plan maps can reflect this proposal.

Submit as a part of the mining and reclamation plan the complete Root Control and Ventilation System and Methane and Dust Control

Plans approved by Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). Change any data or information in this submittal that may be in disagreement to the plans approved by MSHA.

(b) The water supply system for the overland belt conveyors must be protected against freezing during the winter months if it is to remain operational. The method for assuring this should be described.

Formaldehyde treated wastes from chemical toilets would be transported to the sewage lagoons for disposal (p. 1-135) and biological and chemical sludges would be disposed (p. 1-136). Has the Environmental Protection Agency approved these actions and, if so, what are their conditions?

784.13 Reclamation Plans; General Requirements

(b)(1) Applicant has presented a general timetable and schedule for reclamation. More detail (such as approximate year each step will take place) is required.

(b)(5) The applicant states that the 10-year responsibility period begins at topsoil distribution and reseeded, although irrigation (which is planned) will reset the clock on this period to zero. The applicant feels that fertilizer application will not affect the timetable (p. 11-341). These assumptions are incorrect. The requirements of 30 CFR 817.116 are that the ten-year period of responsibility begins when the ground cover equals the approved standard after the last year of augmented seeding, fertilizer, irrigation or other work which ensures success. The revegetation plan must be amended to follow these requirements.

Several citations are given in the narrative (Section IV) for references which are not listed in the literature cited section. These omissions should be added to the list.

784.14 Reclamation Plan: Protection of Hydrologic Balance

(a)(1) The applicant must discuss the potential impacts of mining on the interbedded sandstone units of the Blackhawk Formation and Castlegate Sandstone--which can act as aquifers.

(b)(3) Provision for collecting, recording and reporting of water quality and quantity data, per UMC 784.14(b)(3), is not included. Section IV B.1.2.2. of the application states that water quality sampling "will continue relatively unchanged"; however, more specific information (especially for streamflows) should be provided.

Type

Need to provide rationale for selecting springs (D-13-12) 9ddc-S1 and (D-12-12) 23ccb-S1 as representative ground water quality sources for monitoring (p. 11-92).

Need to expand on the reasons precluding sample collection from the observation wells (p. 11-92). Representative sample collection is primarily dependent upon sampling methodology and well design, not aquifer transmissivity.

The applicant should discuss the existing water use or diversion (including irrigation ditches) downstream of the project area. The impacts of decreased flow in Soldier and Dugout Creeks below the surface facilities as a result of consumptive water use in the mining operation must be analyzed.

784.15 Reclamation Plan: Post-mining Land Uses

The revegetation section gives the methods for returning the land to its pre-mining use. How the use will be achieved must be discussed also.

The description of the proposed post-mining land use also must be accompanied by a copy of the comments concerning the proposed use from the legal or equitable owners of record of the surface areas to be affected by surface operations or facilities as well as state or local government agencies which would have to initiate, implement, approve or authorize the proposed use.

784.16 Reclamation Plan: Ponds, Impoundments, Banks, Dams, and Embankments

(a) The applicant must clearly address MSHA requirements, including stability analysis, with regard to structures meeting or exceeding MSHA criteria (i.e., Anderson Reservoir, Dugout Reservoir).

Dugout Reservoir would have a design capacity for 20 acre feet for sediment storage (p. 1-116). How often would the reservoir have to be cleaned of sediment during mine life and where would these sediments be disposed?

Dugout Reservoir would be left intact at the end of mine life (p. 1-280). Assuming the reservoir would be cleaned of sediments at that time, how many years would lapse prior to complete filling of the reservoir due to siltation?

Sage Point

284.19 Reclamation Plan: Protection of Hydrologic Balance

It is proposed that the culvert in Fish Creek Canyon will be backfilled with suitable material at the conclusion of mining and drainage will be allowed to cascade over the outslope of the portal pad. The applicant must ^{submit} ~~calculate~~ ^{calculations} on stability & erosion control. A plan for maintenance must also be included. The regulatory authority will not approve this type of plan without substantial evidence on stability.

784.21
and
817.97

Fish and Wildlife Plan

Since successful reclamation is supposed to mitigate adverse impacts, as suggested on II-405, the applicant should provide an estimate of the time period between initial habitat disturbance and expected recolonization by wildlife.

Regarding UMC 817.97(a) and (d)(4), the practices designed to satisfy these requirements are described as preliminary pending submission of an addendum in July 1981. As a result, many of the mitigation and enhancement practices are discussed as possibilities instead of firm commitments. Numerous examples exist on pages II-408-411 and

784.22

Diversions

Section III B.5.2.1 of the application states that there will be three diversions from Soldier Creek and Dugout Creek. Only two diversion channels are apparent on Maps D03-0021 and D03-0022. In addition, cross sections of these diversion channels are not provided.

Locations of the overland flow diversion ditches must be provided on Map D03-0027 for the Dugout Canyon Portal Area and on Map D03-0029 for the Preparation Plant Area.

784.24

Transportation Facilities

Although typical cross sections of Class I and II roads are presented, the applicant states that detailed design of roads will be submitted nine months prior to construction. No reference to gradients is made on specific roads and no specifications or sizing criteria were found for drainage culverts. In addition, only very general information is included on the railroad.

Preliminary engineering or other evidence of compliance to regulations in regards to designing roads to specifications of grade, pitch, vertical and horizontal alignment should be furnished.

Data should be furnished showing locations of drainage structures, including culverts, and demonstration that they are sized for 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event.

A tunnel is proposed through Fish Creek Ridge for the conveyor (p. 1-84). Information on construction techniques, tunnel dimensions, tunnel support and access by humans and wildlife is needed. Additional details on tunnel plugging and permanence is required (p. 1-303).

Apparent Completeness Review
Sage Point-Dugout Canyon Mine Complex

Summary of Major Deficiencies

1. Has the mine plan cultural resources submission been edited? If so by whom? If so please submit the original documents. If the submission has not been edited the author and date is required.
2. A complete description of each site is needed. The descriptions should include the specific results of the artifact analysis, relating to temporal placement and site function. Maps and illustrations where needed should be referenced.
3. Site collection techniques need to be discussed. Table IV-1.2 for example indicates that some sites and certain artifact types were collected while others were not. What is the underlying rationale for collecting and not collecting.
4. A statement that the National Register of Historic Places was checked as well as the results of the check is required.
5. Discussions of site eligibility and significance are confusing and inconsistent. Sites that have the potential to yield scientific information, both on a site specific basis and on a regional scale are considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places pursuant to criterion (d) in 36 CFR 60.6. Under this criterion the sites do not warrant in place preservation, in fact they realize their significance only when the data is collected, analyzed and the information disseminated. Use of the CRRS system seems to confuse rather than help this issue. BLM no longer uses the system, and OSM recommends that its use by contracting firms be discontinued. Unless information to the contrary is presented, OSM considers the S2 and S3 sites to have potential to yield information important in history and prehistory, and are therefore eligible for nomination to the National Register. Information to clarify these inconsistencies needs to be supplied in the mine plan.
6. If eligible sites will be impacted by construction of mine facilities, a plan to mitigate the impact will be necessary. This plan should be prepared in accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Guidelines for Making "Adverse Effect" and "No Adverse Effect" Determinations for Archaeological Resource in Accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.
7. Definition of what constitutes a site is needed.
8. A single or several maps outlining the mine plan area, the areas surveyed (intensive, sample), area of potential surface disturbance and site locations is needed. The Proposed Permit Area in the mine plan could be used as the base map.

9. What is the status of the documentation of the Spring Canyon Mine (42Cb204), Knight-Ideal Mine (42Cb205) and the Snow Mine (42Cb206). See comments 5, 6.