

0004

File

February 16, 1982

MEMO TO COAL FILE:

RE: U. S. Fuel Company
Hiawatha Complex
ACT/007/011
Carbon County, Utah

Reclamation Biologists, Sue Linner, Lynn Kunzler, Steve Cox, Mary Boucek, and Reclamation Officer, Dave Lof, toured the following areas of the Hiawatha Complex on February 9, 1982, in the company of Jean Semborski:

King 4&5 Mines in Middle Fork of Miller Creek
King 6 Mine and conveyor in South Fork of Miller Creek
Slurry ponds and waste disposal areas East of Hiawatha

North Fork and Mohrland areas were inaccessible due to snow. The purpose of the visit was a technical inspection for permit review and to acquaint new biologists with the mine. After touring the facilities, revegetation monitoring and Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining's draft guidelines were discussed with Ms. Semborski, and Mr. Bob Eccli, at U. S. Fuel Company's office in Hiawatha. In addition, the lack of stockpiled topsoil for previously disturbed areas were discussed.

U. S. Fuel brought up the possibility of utilizing topsoil from a presently undisturbed sagebrush area (the area had been disturbed in the distant past), near the confluence of North and Middle Forks of Miller Creek, for reclamation of disturbed areas in the canyons. Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining staff advised against doing this since it would create additional areas of disturbance and the topsoil properties may not be conducive to revegetation at a different site, higher in elevation, and of differing vegetation originally. We advised that U. S. Fuel may want to prepare and utilize the "growth medium" existing in canyon areas in lieu of importing topsoil from another area, provided that soil tests of the growth media showed that it was non-toxic and demonstrated that revegetation was possible. It was suggested that they contact Reclamation Soil Specialist, Ev Hooper, or Tom Portle, of the Division for further guidance.

MARY BOUCEK
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

cc: U. S. Department of Interior
Office of Surface Mining
219 Central Avenue, N. W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

MB/lk

Statistics:

Vehicle: #EX 70237 228 miles
Vehicle: #EX 68805 286 miles
Per Diem: 5 people @ 35 hours=225.67

Grant #G51 13021