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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangerter  
Governor

Dee C. Hansen  
Executive Director

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

March 4, 1993

TO: File

From:  Priscilla Burton, Senior Soils Reclamation Specialist and  
Inspector

RE: Staff Meeting Concerning the Impending Permanent Cessation of the Hiawatha Mine. U.S. Fuel Co. ACT/007/011. Carbon Co. UT Folder #2.

## SUMMARY:

On March 3, 1993 a meeting of staff members was called to discuss the impending reclamation only status of the Hiawatha Mine (see inspection report dated 2/24/93). Present at the meeting were Tom Mitchell and Bill Richards of the Attorney General's Office; Joe Helfrich, compliance officer; Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor; Wayne Western, permitting Engineer; and Priscilla Burton, Inspector for the site and permitting Soil Scientist.

On March 5, 1992, U.S. Fuel Co. was issued a permit renewal with an accompanying list of deficiencies. Some omissions in the review became evident during this meeting. The hydrology portion of the renewal review of the Mining and Reclamation Plan did not include a review of design criteria and plans (R645-301-740), impoundments (R645-301-743), discharge structures (R6450301-745), coal mine waste (R645-301-746), disposal of non-coal mine waste (R645-301-747), casing and sealing of wells (R645-301-748), or reclamation (R645-301-760). (This was confirmed in a discussion with Jim Smith (3/4/93). Jim indicated that his hydrology review included only those areas where hydrology and geology mesh. The engineering review conducted by Wayne did not include reclamation design criteria and plans (R645-301-550).

The attorneys urged a review of engineering designs and hydrologic designs of the reclamation portion of the Mining and Reclamation plan, prior to a planned visit to the mine site on March 18, 1993. According to timetables II-22 through 25 and Table II-29, backfilling and grading will occur one year after the mine permanently ceases operation.

Mr. Helfrich took on the responsibility of researching the violation history of the mine to determine whether the Division had made any prior commitments in violation abatements or terminations that might affect the reclamation plan criteria.

## CONCLUSION:

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The Division should conduct both engineering and hydrology reviews of reclamation designs and plans in a timely manner. Comments on reclamation designs should allow enough time for the Permittee to incorporate new designs into their plan without delaying the reclamation schedule.

cc: SFalvey  
DHaddock  
JHelfrich  
TMitchell  
WRichards  
WWestern

STAFFMTG.CES