

0016



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
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Executive Director  
James W. Carter  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
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801-538-5340  
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April 5, 1996

Michael P. Watson, P. E., President  
United States Fuel Company  
P.O. Box 887  
Price, Utah 84501

RE: Timeliness of Achieved Reclamation, Hiawatha Complex, U.S. Fuel Company,  
ACT/007/011, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Watson:

Please find enclosed an interagency Division correspondence from Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor to Lowell Braxton, Associate Director concerning the aforementioned. As indicated in the letter, the Division feels that the timeliness of the reclamation at the King 4/5/6 complex is inadequate.

More directly, a comparison of Table II-23, page 71 of U. S. Fuel's Mining and Reclamation Plan and current inspections reveals the placement of topsoil in the processing plant and loadout facility area, (i.e., slurry pond #4 area) is 23 months behind schedule. This is based on the revised schedule submitted by Robert Eccli in July, 1992, but not effective until May 27, 1994. Essentially, U. S. Fuel is four years behind schedule in the reclamation of the site. This, without question, cannot be considered prudent reclamation. **The Division feels that U. S. Fuel's commitment to provide the resources necessary to reclaim the site are inadequate, and that an enforcement action may be necessary in the very near future in order to correct this inadequacy.**

Rather than issue a violation at this time, the Division feels that the Permittee should be given an opportunity to respond to this concern and/or commit additional resources to expedite the ongoing reclamation.

Page 2  
M. Watson  
Timeliness/Reclamation  
April 5, 1996

Please respond to this concern by April 19, 1996. Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peter Hess".

Peter Hess  
Reclamation Specialist III

sd

cc: Jim Carter, Director, DOGM  
Lowell Braxton, Associate Director, DOGM  
Thomas Mitchell, Attorney General's Office  
Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor, DOGM  
Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor, DOGM



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April 4, 1996

TO: Lowell P. Braxton, Associate Director

FROM: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DRH*

RE: Schedule of Reclamation, U. S. Fuel Company, Hiawatha Complex,  
ACT/007/011, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

#### SUMMARY

U. S. Fuel contends that they are continuing to reclaim the Hiawatha mine site, however, most of the work that has been done of late would be classified as maintenance and very little in the way of reclamation is being accomplished.

Attached are the reclamation time tables taken from the approved Mining and Reclamation Plan. They require that reclamation of the site be completed within two (2) years of cessation of operations. This being the case, U. S. Fuel continues to fall way behind in completing their reclamation obligations.

#### RECOMMENDATION

In the absence of significant and timely strides toward completion of a sale and transfer, U. S. Fuel should be required to get in step with their previously approved reclamation timetable.

cc: J. Helfrich  
P. Hess

RECLTIME.HIA



# UNITED STATES FUEL COMPANY

HIAWATHA, UTAH 84527

July 8, 1992

Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Daron:

This is to notify you that we intend to begin demolition operations at our coal preparation plant around July 15.

If the Division has any questions or comments regarding this please let me know.

Sincerely,



Robert Eccli  
Sr. Mining Engineer

**RECEIVED**

JUL 14 1992

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

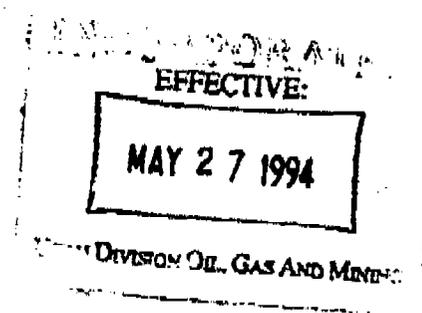


09/02/92

Table II-23

Reclamation Timetable  
Hiawatha Processing Plant and Loadout Facility

| ACTIVITY  | START   | FINISH          | YEAR |
|---|---------|-----------------|------|
| Cease Operations  |         |                 | 1    |
| Dismantle Surface Buildings<br>Structures and Equipment | May 1   | Oct. 1          | 1    |
| Remove Exposed Concrete                                 | Sept. 1 | Nov. 1          | 1    |
| Regrade Site  | May 1   | Aug. 15         | 2    |
| Non-toxic Fill Placement                                | July 15 | Aug. 15         | 2    |
| Place Topsoil   | Aug. 1  | Sept. 1         | 2    |
| Remove Sediment Ponds                                   | Aug. 1  | Sept. 15        | 2    |
| Soil Nutrient Tests                                     | Aug. 1  | Aug. 15         | 2    |
| Nutrient/Fertilizer Placement                           | Aug. 15 | Sept. 15        | 2    |
| Seeding and Planting                                    | Oct. 15 | Oct. 30         | 2    |
| Mulching  | Nov. 1  | Nov. 15         | 2    |
| Final Acceptance  |         | Within 10 Years |      |



09/02/92

Table II-24

Reclamation Timetable  
Middle Fork Mining Operations

| ACTIVITY  | START   | FINISH          | YEAR |
|---|---------|-----------------|------|
| Cease Operations  |         |                 | 1    |
| Remove Mining Equipment                                 | May 1   | July 1          | 1    |
| Dismantle Surface Buildings<br>Structures and Equipment | July 1  | Aug. 15         | 1    |
| Seal Portals  | Aug. 15 | Sept. 30        | 1    |
| Remove Exposed Concrete                                 | Aug. 15 | Sept. 15        | 1    |
| Regrade Site  | May 1   | June 1          | 2    |
| Remove Stream Diversions                                | May 15  | June 1          | 2    |
| Stockpile Substitute Topsoil                            | June 1  | Aug. 15         | 2    |
| Remove Sediment Pond                                    | Aug. 1  | Aug. 15         | 2    |
| Install Sediment Traps                                  | Aug. 1  | Sept. 1         | 2    |
| Soil Nutrient Tests                                     | Aug. 15 | Sept. 1         | 2    |
| Surface Scarification                                   | Aug. 15 | Sept. 1         | 2    |
| Nutrient/Fertilizer Placement                           | Sept. 1 | Sept. 15        | 2    |
| Seeding and Planting                                    | Oct. 1  | Oct. 15         | 2    |
| Mulching  | Oct. 15 | Nov. 1          | 2    |
| Final Acceptance  |         | Within 10 Years |      |

EFFECTIVE:

MAY 27 1994

09/02/92

Table II-25

Reclamation Timetable  
South Fork Mining Operations

| ACTIVITY   | START    | FINISH   | YEAR |
|--|----------|----------|------|
| Cease Operations                                     |          |          | 1    |
| Remove Mining Equipment                              | May 1    | July 1   | 1    |
| Dismantle Surface Buildings Structures and Equipment | July 1   | Aug. 15  | 1    |
| Remove Exposed Concrete                              | Aug. 15  | Sept. 15 | 1    |
| Seal Portals   | Aug. 15  | Sept. 30 | 1    |
| Install Sediment Traps                               | May 1    | June 1   | 2    |
| Remove Sediment Pond                                 | June 1   | June 15  | 2    |
| Remove Stream Diversions                             | June 1   | July 1   | 2    |
| Regrade Site   | June 1   | Aug. 15  | 2    |
| Stockpile Substitute Topsoil                         | June 1   | Aug. 15  | 2    |
| Clear Topsoil Stockpiles                             | Aug. 1   | Aug. 15  | 2    |
| Strip Topsoil From Past Interim Reclamation Areas    | Aug. 1   | Aug. 15  | 2    |
| Place Topsoil and Substitute Topsoil Matirial        | Aug. 15  | Sept. 1  | 2    |
| Final Surface Scarification and Preparation          | Sept. 1  | Sept. 15 | 2    |
| Soil Nutrient Tests                                  | Sept. 1  | Sept. 15 | 2    |
| Nutrient/Fertilizer Placement                        | Sept. 15 | Oct. 1   | 2    |
| Seeding and Planting                                 | Oct. 1   | Oct. 15  | 2    |
| Mulching   | Oct. 15  | Nov. 1   | 2    |
| Final Acceptance                                     |          |          |      |

EFFECTIVE:  
 Oct. 15  
**MAY 27 1994**  
 Nov. 1

WITHIN DIVISION OIL GAS AND MINT  
WITHIN 10 YEARS

09/02/92

Table II-26

Reclamation Timetable  
North Fork Mining Operations

| ACTIVITY                      | START    | FINISH          | YEAR |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------|------|
| Cease Operations              |          |                 | 1    |
| Seal Portal                   | June 1   | June 15         | 1    |
| Install Sediment Traps        | June 15  | July 1          | 1    |
| Regrade Site                  | July 1   | Aug. 15         | 1    |
| Place Topsoil*                | July 1   | July 15         | 1    |
| Soil Nutrient Tests           | July 15  | Aug. 1          | 1    |
| Nutrient/Fertilizer Placement | Aug. 1   | Aug. 15         | 1    |
| Seeding and Planting          | Sept. 15 | Sept. 30        | 1    |
| Mulching                      | Oct. 1   | Oct. 15         | 1    |
| Final Acceptance              |          | Within 10 Years |      |

\*Topsoil will be borrowed from the substitute topsoil borrow area D.

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EFFECTIVE:  
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Table II-31

Reclamation Timetable  
Substitute Topsoil Borrow Sites

| ACTIVITY                                     | START    | FINISH   | YEAR |
|--|----------|----------|------|
| Cease Operations (Hiawatha Facility)         |          |          | 1    |
| Install Cutoff Ditches<br>And Sediment Ponds | June 1   | July 1   | 2    |
| Clear and Grub Sites                         | July 1   | Aug. 1   | 2    |
| Excavate/Remove Topsoil<br>and Nontoxic Fill | July 15  | Sept. 1  | 2    |
| Scarify and Prepare<br>Final Surface         | Sept 1   | Sept. 15 | 2    |
| Soil Nutrient Tests                          | Sept. 15 | Oct. 1   | 2    |
| Nutrient/Fertilizer Placement                | Sept. 15 | Oct. 1   | 2    |
| Grading and Planting                         | Nov. 1   | Nov. 15  | 2    |
| Reclaiming                                   | Nov. 15  | Nov. 30  | 2    |
| Final Assessment                             |          |          |      |
| Within 10 Years                              |          |          |      |

EFFECTIVE:  
MAY 27 1994

DIVISION: OIL, GAS AND MINT