



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Ted Stewart
Executive Director

James W. Carter
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

September 22, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor
Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DO97A*

FROM: Susan White, Senior Reclamation Biologist *SW*

RE: Draft Partial Technical Analysis, U.S. Fuel Company, Hiawatha Mine Complex, ACT/007/011-DO97A, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

A Division Order (DO97A) was issued in February 1997 which required the Operator to address several permit deficiencies. Numerous submittals have been made in response to DO97A. These responses are dated February 5, April 15, May 20, May 23, May 27, May 28, June 27, August 1, and September 10, 1997. The following review considers all or part of the requirements of DO97A - **R645-301-411.140** and **R645-301-536**. Numerous cultural, historic and archeological surveys have been conducted in the area, particularly as they relate to the town of Hiawatha as a Historic District and new disturbance. However, no surveys have addressed the significance of the existing historic resources within the disturbed area (i.e. ruins and mining related artifacts). A site survey must still be conducted by a person permitted by SHPO to document the Historic Resources within the disturbed area.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-411.

Analysis:

The mines at Hiawatha opened in 1909 in West Hiawatha, 1910 at Black Hawk, and in 1914 another mine in West Hiawatha. These three mines provided the economic base for the development of the towns in greater Hiawatha (East Hiawatha, West Hiawatha, and Black Hawk). These towns were incorporated as Hiawatha in 1911. The company has retained

ownership of the town and properties since its incorporation. In 1911, houses were built where is now slurry pond 5. This area was called Greek Town. Jap Town was built to the south along the tramway (leading to the Kine Mine or Black Hawk). In 1913 downtown Hiawatha was built where now the mine office is located. Many of these homes and buildings were demolished in the 1980's due to safety concerns.

Several archeological, cultural, and historic surveys of the Hiawatha area have been conducted. They are:

- Cultural Resource Inventory of Middle Fork Surface Facilities
- Archeological Reconnaissance of a Proposed Coal Facility at The King VI Mine
- 1980 and 1981, Nancy Jacobus Taniguchi, SHPO, Survey of the Dwellings and Buildings in the Hiawatha Area
- 1983, Asa Nielson and David Merrill, Cultural Resource Inventory of the U.S. Fuel Cedar Creek Mine Expansion, Emery County, Utah

Historic resource information and limited maps are found in Chapter IV and Appendices IV-1, IV-2, and IV-7. The SHPO survey of dwellings and building is on file at the mine office and at SHPO. The SHPO survey focused on the quality of the town and buildings as a Historic District. No survey could be found for the ruins and old mine remanent found through out the disturbed area particularly in Middle Fork.

In 1981, Dr. Melvin Smith, Utah State Historic Preservation Officer, nominated the Town of Hiawatha and several of the mine buildings to the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district (?). United States Fuel Company (Appendix IV-7) in a letter to SHPO objected to the listing. Since the town site and mine buildings are private ownership no listing to the Register was made. However, the permit states (page IV-7) that no eligible or known sites of historic interest are located within or adjacent to the permit area. The objection to the listing by the owner does not negate the eligibility determination. The objection however, does prevent an actual listing. Any resources eligible for listing within the permit area or disturbed area under SMARCA jurisdiction is subject to all the requirements of R645-301-411.140. Therefore, the permit must acknowledge that resources exist within and adjacent to the permit area and designate them as such on a map.

Several buildings within the disturbed area were evaluated in the Taniguchi survey in 1980 and 1981 as contributory or significant. These include:

- Change house, 1914, contributory
- Depot, 1914, significant
- Machine Shop, 1915, contributory
- Warehouse, 1915, contributory
- Fan House, significant, (unsure of location)

Hoist House, significant (unsure of location)

Many others than those listed here were contributory or significant within the disturbed area but have since been demolished. Appendix IV-7 provides a good summary of the current conditions of buildings identified in the Taniguchi survey.

Two prelaw portals associated with the Hiawatha #1 and Hiawatha #2 mines have dates formed in the concrete portal structure. Final reclamation of the Middle Fork pad area will not cover these concrete structures. Section 412.140 states that any structures determined to be of historical value within the disturbed area will be evaluated at the time of reclamation. Several of the buildings listed in the Taniguchi survey as significant or contributory have already been demolished. At minimum the disturbed area must be surveyed and historic resources evaluated. Mitigation measures must be addressed now to document conditions prior to any adverse effects.

The Hiawatha town cemetery is located northwest of the heavy equipment shop. It is reported that the cemetery was used for babies in the town of Hiawatha (statement from Michael Watson, U.S. Fuel). Two grave site can be seen and only one headstone. The headstone reads Elmer Koski, 1926 - 1926. Plastic flower were on the grave. The cemetery is currently covered with coal fines to an unknown depth. In 1997 an attempt was made to excavate the fines. The Division asked the Operator to stop and develop a protection plan. Section 411.141.2 details the protection plan. The cleaning will be done by hand tools and every effort will be made to insure that the grave sites and artifacts will remain. Prior to anyone participating in the cleanup work, they will be instructed in the protection of the grave sites and artifacts. The Operator has committed to an annual cleaning if necessary. Once the coal fines are removed the cemetery should be excluded from the disturbed area.

The city ordinances for the Town of Hiawatha were observed on file at State History. In these ordinances was the cemetery boundaries which enclose an area of about 2.5 acres. The current cemetery encompass perhaps a half acre. The operator should investigate the possibility of the cemetery being larger than seen. The ordinances required any burials to be recorded. U.S. Fuel may still have those record books available for researching the exact number of grave sites.

Findings:

The permittee must provide the following in accordance with the requirements of:

R645-301-411.140, U.S. Fuel must provide maps and supporting narrative in the MRP, describing the cultural and historic resources within the disturbed area which are listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. This will require a site inventory done by a person registered with State History. A description of any historic site within the

Page 4

ACT/007/011-97A

September 22, 1997

disturbed area must be provided which details the protection and mitigation measures to be used during mining and reclamation activities.

R645-301-536 - The cemetery must be cleaned of all coal mine waste. An attempt must be made to locate the registry of the town and determine if the cemetery as currently seen is correct.

RECOMMENDATION:

Prior to approval, the requirements of R645-301-536 and R645-301-411.140 must be provided as outlined above.