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October 16, 1998

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DH*

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, September 10, 1997, May 15, 1998, and July 30, 1998. 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. The site is recommended eligible to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a historic mining district comprised of 130 historic properties and features.

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
- 1998, Kevin O'Dell and Don Southworth, A Cultural Resources Survey of Hiawatha Coal Mine, Hiawatha, Utah

Historic resource information and maps are found in Chapter IV and Appendices, and Exhibits IV-A through D. 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 within the town area as a Historic District. The survey performed by O'Dell and Southworth concentrated on resources within or immediately adjacent to the disturbed area.

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. The land owner declined the listing.

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.

The O'Dell and Southworth 1998 study evaluated all sites and features for eligibility to the National Register as outlined in 36CFR60.4. The study listed 139 properties or features of which 81 were considered "eligible-contributing". The locations of these "eligible-contributing" features are located on maps named Exhibit IV-6A through D. Twenty-one of the eligible sites are within the disturbed area. The study concluded:

Despite modifications over the last fifty years, the Hiawatha property retains substantial material integrity. The property is one of the few Utah coal mine locations that retains the components typical of twentieth century coal production, including coal extraction, processing, transportation, and company towns. Therefore, this property is recommended eligible for the NRHP, as a district, under criterion A (36 CFR 60.4). In addition, sites and features on the property maintain "integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association" and embodies "the distinctive characteristics of a type, period" and "method of construction," as outlined in 36 CFR 60.4. Sites or features with the potential to yield information regarding early twentieth century coal mining in Carbon County are recommended eligible for the NRHP, under criterion D (36 CFR 60.4).

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). Prior to the 1998 cleaning two grave sites could be seen and only one headstone. The headstone reads Elmer Koski, 1926 - 1926. Plastic flower were on the grave. In 1998 the coal fines were vacuumed from the surface of the cemetery. During the cleaning an additional 18 grave sites were identified. The Operator has committed to maintaining the cemetery free of coal fines.

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 a much smaller size. The operator has investigated the possibility of the cemetery being larger than seen. The areas around the fence were excavated under direction of Sagebrush Archaeological Consultants. No additional grave sites were found.

Findings:

The requirements of the Division Order have been met by cleaning the cemetery of coal fines and conducting an inventory of sites eligible to the NRHP within the permit area.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Division Order requirements for **R645-301-411.140** have been met. This portion of the Division Order should be terminated. However, the survey concluded that the site is eligible to the NRHP. This finding will require additional information from the Operator. Required additional information will be provided by the Division to SHPO.