



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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December 20, 1984

TO: Dianne Nielson, Director

FROM: Sue Linner, Permit Supervisor *SLL*  
Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Biologist *ly*  
Tom Portle, Reclamation Soils Specialist *TLP*

RE: Letter from U.S. Steel Mining Co. Inc. regarding Vegetation  
Test Plots At Wellington Coal Cleaning Plant.

*ACI/007/002  
#3 + #7*

We agree with U.S. Steel's consultant that it is essentially too late this year to install the remaining test plots at Wellington and that they should be completed by next fall. However, the following concerns need to be addressed before an extension is granted:

1. By not completing the test plots in 1984, the company is in violation of their permit, thus the permit will need to be revised. The operator should be officially informed of this via a NOV.
2. U.S. Steel will need to submit a request for a permit revision. This request must include a detailed time schedule for beginning and completing each phase of the test plots.
3. Enforcement action must be taken if U.S. Steel fails to meet any of the scheduled dates. This will help insure that the test plots are implemented in 1985.
4. Since the test plots are an integral part of the 'Finding of Reclamation Feasibility' (UMC 786.19(b)), the permit revision should also include an additional condition that there be no new disturbance until such time that there is a minimum of 5 years of data from the test plots to verify reclamation feasibility.

cc: Ron Daniels  
Joe Helfrich

0071R(2)

*File*

December 3, 1984

TO: Coal File, Inspections and Enforcement  
FROM: Tom Wright, Mining Field Specialist <sup>Tw</sup>  
RE: U. S. Steel Wellington Preparation Plant, ACT/007/012,  
Carbon County, Utah

On November 15, 1984 I conducted a partial inspection at U. S. Steels Wellington Preparation Plant. Barbara Filas, who handles all compliance with the Division was not at work on this date and no one else was available for an inspection of the site so I limited this inspection to examination of the reclamation test plots.

These test plots are being done to find the best method for revegetation of the area when operations cease. The sites are located just west of the plant facilities on a level storage area.

The topsoil material used in the testing had been spread over the plots and wind rowed for protection of developing vegetation. Fertilizer had been applied over sites and was visible.

As of this inspection no seeding had been begun on the test plots. U.S. Steel has indicated that the seeding would be completed during this fall. It appeared that the plots needed no further preparation and seeding could begin at anytime.

Mulch and fencing material for the area were stockpiled just offsite. No work was ongoing on plots during the inspection.

Coal was being processed on the date of inspection and railroad cars were being loaded for shipment.

re

cc: Barbara Filas, U. S. Steel  
Donna Griffin, OSM  
Sue Linner, DOGM  
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics: See Blazon Mine memo dated November 23, 1984  
0035Q-2

September 28, 1984

TO: Memo to Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement  
FROM: Sandy Pruitt, Mining Field Specialist *SP*  
RE: Wellington Plant, U. S. Steel Corporation, ACT/007/012,  
Folder #7, Carbon County, Utah

Representatives of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, Lorin Nielsen, Acting Assessment Officer and Joseph Helfrich, Field Supervisor accompanied Sandy Pruitt on an inspection of the Wellington Plant on August 30, 1984. Barbara Filas, U. S. Steel Corporation accompanied the inspectors on a brief tour of the operation. It had rained the day before this inspection and all of the plant was down so all of the sediment ponds were full to capacity. The leak in the water line by the heat dryer pond appeared fixed, but there was a small leak in the water line by the railroad tracks. The water level in the field ponds was checked on this inspection. The first pond was dry, the second pond still has water in it. U. S. Steel is required to remove the coal fines from the drainage ditch into the first pond and from the pond itself as a contemporary reclamation project this year. Ms. Filas commented that U. S. Steel intends to utilize these field ponds as a back-up system in case of leaks through the slurry pipelines. A priority project at this time is construction of the leach field required by State Health. The catch basin on the east bank of the Price River below the slurry pipelines has retained runoff to about 6 inches deep at the bottom of the pond. The inlet was eroded by runoff, more stabilization is needed here.  
re

cc: Randy Watts  
Donna Griffin  
Joe Helfrich

Statistics: See Genwal Mine Memo dated September 24, 1984.  
00540-24