

0018

April 16, 1985

TO: Coal File

FROM: Rick Summers, Reclamation Hydrologist ¹⁵

RE: Wellington Prep Plant, ACT/007/012, Carbon County, Utah

On April 10, 1985 Rick Summers, Dave Hooper, and Tom Wright conducted a site review of the Wellington Prep Plant area. We were accompanied Barbara Filas representing U. S. Steel. A tour was conducted of the recently constructed road pond, auxillary pond, and heat dryer pond system. The ponds were constructed smaller than the approved plan specified. Ms. Filas was asked to submit narrative and new plans for the ponds to be inserted into the existing operating plan in our office. These ponds will then be reviewed for adequacy by the Division incorporating this new information. Clean up of the coal fines in the field ditches and field ponds east of the railroad track had begun and will be continuing for the next couple of weeks. It was suggested to Ms. Filas that the culvert located directly beneath the slurry line connecting the ditches to the field ponds be plugged as these ponds are not to be used in the future. She indicated that they would like to keep the ponds to use strictly as containment depressions for emergency water spilled in the event of a slurry pipe line clog or break. These areas are not to be used for treatment of sediment or for control of disturbed area runoff. As such, they will not be required to meet the performance standards of UMC 817.46. There exists a good stand of vegetation cover in these areas and the site is vastly improved from the situation that existed there a year ago. Additionally, we toured the 14 ground water monitoring wells that have been drilled and implemented at the site this last fall. We discussed sampling procedures from these wells with Ms. Filas and discovered that she is conducting sampling in an inappropriate manner. I indicated to her that I would send her information on correct sampling procedures which she will be required to implement. Tom Wright, the inspector at the site, had some concerns over ponding water at the very south end of the property (south of the coal refuse pile and west of the railroad track). This ponding is the result of undisturbed runoff for all but the south face of the coal refuse pile. This south face is very small in area and the operator has demonstrated that no runoff would be expected for a 10 year-24 hour rain fall event. We then visited the area on the east side of the river near the slurry