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STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

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November 14, 1986

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
P-402-459-473

Mr. Rob Wiley  
Kaiser Coal Company  
P. O. Box 10  
Sunnyside, Utah 84539

**FILE COPY**

Dear Mr. Wiley:

Re: Approved Changes in the Temporary Seed Mix for the Wellington Coal Cleaning Plant, ACT/007/012, Folder No. 4 and 14, Carbon County, Utah

The Division has reviewed your October 24, 1986 request to revise the seed mix to be used for temporary stabilization at the Wellington Coal Cleaning Plant.

While the Division appreciates the effort Kaiser has made in developing the proposed mix, and recognizes the harshness of the site and the difficulty in establishing vegetation at the Wellington site, it does not agree with all statements made in your request based on personal experience and consulting with other professional reclamationists, including some that you have referenced.

As proposed, the seed mix normally would not be acceptable. However, under the following conditions and changes in the seeding rate, the Division will allow the use of these species for 1986 planting on an experimental basis.

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Species	Drill Rate PLS/ac
Russian wildrye ( <u>Elymus junceus</u> )	2.0
Squirreltail ( <u>Sitanion hystrix</u> )	1.0
Indian Ricegrass ( <u>Oryzopsis hymenoides</u> )	3.0
Streambank wheatgrass ( <u>Agropyron riparium</u> )	3.0
Slender Wheatgrass ( <u>Agropyron trachycaulum</u> )	3.0
Yellow Sweetclover ( <u>Melilotus officinalis</u> )	1.0
Four-wing saltbush ( <u>Atriplex canescens</u> )	2.0
Gardner saltbush ( <u>Atriplex gardneri</u> )	1.0
*'immgrant' forage kochia ( <u>Kochia prostrata</u> )	1.0*

\* Forage kochia does not establish from drill seeding and should be broadcast on the surface at 1 pound/acre PLS.

Areas that will be broadcast seeded are to be seeded at double the drill seeding rate.

Ephraim crested wheatgrass may be added at 1 pound/acre PLS (Drill rate) to all areas except topsoil or substitute topsoil stockpiles.

Since it is believed that many of the past seeding failures may be due to poor quality seed, the Division would like a current seed analysis so that if success is not achieved one could more easily determine the cause. Therefore, once the seed has been obtained please contact Carl Bott, Seed Inspector in Price at 637-4500 to obtain a sample for analysis at the State Seed Lab. A copy of the results is to be submitted to DOGM.

The Division appreciates Kaiser's willingness to perform the necessary revegetation tasks. The primary goal of revegetation is to stabilize the soils. Recognizing the costs involved and the

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"slow" development of many native species, the Division will allow a minimum of two growing seasons before areas of apparent poor success are required to be reseeded, provided:

1. there are no obvious revegetation problems;
2. soils are stable;
3. a map showing the locations of the areas that are seeded this year must be submitted with the annual reclamation report.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,



Susan C. Linner  
Reclamation Biologist/  
Permit Supervisor

jvb  
cc: D. Lof  
L. Kunzler  
0092R-41