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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 11, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DWH*

FROM: Robert Davidson, Soils Reclamation Specialist *RAD*

RE: Modular Coal Preparation Plant, NEICO, Wellington Prep Plant, ACT/007/012-97D, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

SOILS RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 783.21, 817.200(c); R645-301-220, -301-411.

Analysis:

In order to reclaim coal fines from the existing fine refuse ponds, NEICO has submitted a minor amendment to allow Covol Technologies, Inc., to construct a modular coal fines wash plant, power lines and water lines in the coal refuse ponds area.

The amendment is complete with the following stipulations which have been made by Covol Technologies:

- **Soil Survey** - A stipulation has been made for surveying additional Gerst Soils within the planned disturbed affected areas. On 8/12/97, JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc., will survey at least two additional soil test pits on the toe and midslope hillsides of the affected Gerst Soils. These two soil pits will be strategically located to the areas planned for surface disturbance. These areas are located below the column flotation cells.
- **Soil Characterization** - Soil survey characterization results will be forwarded to the Division on Wednesday, August 13, 1997.

- **Soil Sampling** - Each soil pit will be sampled and analyses provided as outlined by the Division's guidelines for topsoil and overburden¹. Results will be provided when they are received back from the laboratory.

Findings:

As determined in the analysis section of this TA, approval of the plan is subject to the following Permit Conditions. Accordingly, the permittee has committed to comply with the requirements of the following Permit Conditions, as specified, and in accordance with the requirements of:

R645-301-220 and R645-301-120, Soil Survey - On 8/12/97, JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc., will survey at least two additional soil test pits on the toe and midslope hillsides of the affected Gerst Soils within the Covol Flotation Column Site area. These two soil pits will be strategically located to the areas planned for surface disturbance. These areas are located below the column flotation cells.

Soil Characterization - Soil survey characterization results will be forwarded to the Division on Wednesday, August 13, 1997.

Soil Sampling - Each soil pit will be sampled and analyses provided as outlined by the Division's guidelines for topsoil and overburden¹. Results will be provided when they are received back from the laboratory.

Updated MRP - The MRP will be updated accordingly, including the descriptive text, soil profile description, soil identification, soil pit location and soil map.

OPERATION PLAN

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-230.

Analysis:

The amendment is complete with the following stipulations which have been made by Covol Technologies:

- **Soil removal and salvage** - Stipulation made to salvage all Gerst Soil within the

constructed affected areas under the direction of a non-biased third party soils person.

- **Soils Resource and Operation Map** - Disturbed soils, undisturbed soils and coal refuse will be delineated on a map. The operations soils map will delineate soil salvage areas.

Findings:

As determined in the analysis section of this TA, approval of the plan is subject to the following Permit Conditions. Accordingly, the permittee has committed to comply with the requirements of the following Permit Conditions, as specified, and in accordance with the requirements of:

R645-301-230, Soil removal and salvage - Soil salvage operations will include all Gerst Soil within the constructed affected areas under the direction of a non-biased third party soils person.

Soils Resource and Operation Map - Disturbed soils, undisturbed soils and coal refuse will be delineated on a map. The operations soils map will delineate soil salvage areas.

Update MRP - The MRP operations plan will be updated and correlated with both the soils resource and environmental plan. This information will include descriptive discussion on soil salvage, types of equipment and methods to remove soil from hillsides, soil salvage amounts, soil stockpile size, etc.

RECLAMATION PLAN

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-240.

Analysis:

The amendment is complete as follows:

- **Soil Redistribution** - Additional soil borrow (1,182 cubic yards) is required from topsoil borrow area "B" to provide 1-foot of soil cover over the entire modular

preparation plant area.

- **Substitute Soil and Cover soil** - The plan states that 3-feet of cover material will be placed over the wash plant area where the Coarse Slurry Pond Refuse exists.
- **Soil Stabilization** - Topsoil will be pocked in preparation for revegetation treatments.

The amendment is incomplete as follows:

- **Substitute Soil and Cover soil** - The plan does not state where the 3 ft cover material is coming from nor does it provide characterization of the cover material.

Findings:

The permittee must provide the following, prior to approval, in accordance with the requirements of:

- R645-301-233**, The plan does not state where cover material is coming from nor does it provide characterization.