



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Kathleen Clarke
Executive Director
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
PO Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-7223 (TDD)

TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

DATE: January 15, 1999.
DOGM STAFF: Paul Baker and Robert Davidson
ATTENDANTS: Patrick Collins, Mt. Nebo Scientific; Dave Shaver and Jean Semborski, Andalex
RE: Bond Release Field Visit, NEICO, Wellington Prep Plant, ACT/007/012, Carbon County, Utah #2

Purpose:

- Discuss and observe proposed topsoil borrow areas affected by bond release and post-mining land use change.

Background:

- Proposed topsoil borrow area B and most of area C are currently being negotiated for release from the permit area via a post-mining land use change and bond release. The current amendment has been reviewed by a Division soil's specialist (Ms. Priscilla Burton) and found to be deficient with regard to proposed soil borrow area replacement and ultimate impact on the environment. Therefore, the plan for a post-mining land use change and bond release includes a proposal to delete certain parts of the two topsoil borrow areas, C and H, from the permit area and to add a new area, I. Also, it would be very difficult to reclaim both the current borrow area H and the proposed borrow site I.

Field Observations:

- West Ridge Resources changed some of their plans, so a portion of borrow area C is no longer needed for site development and release from the permitted area. We talked about ways this borrow site could be expanded to allow for enough soil to be salvaged to cover the coarse refuse pile and still allow for the proposed operations. To avoid as much disturbance as possible, and to retain this portion of borrow area C within the permit area, both Mr. Baker and Mr. Davidson agreed a temporary road could be built across area C to access a gravel borrow site associated with the load out. Although we still need to check how much suitable material will be available from area C, it appears it will be adequate.

Recommendations and Conclusions:

- Retain the portion of borrow area C within the permit area as proposed by Mr. Shaver and agreed by Mr. Davidson and Mr. Baker. This area will likely supply enough soil material to reclaim the gob pile and satisfy the deficiencies as presented by Ms. Burton in her soils Technical Analysis.

Signature:

Robert A. Davidson, Soils Reclamation Specialist

on: January 25, 1999