



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)

August 5, 1999

TO: File
THRU: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor *JH*
FROM: Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist *PPB*
RE: Revised Permit Area, Nevada Electric Investment Company, Wellington
Preparation Plant, ACT/007/012-AM99C, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

Nevada Electric Investment Company (NEICO) has proposed to reduce the size of the Wellington Preparation Plant permit area. The Division received the original amendment July 1, 1999, and a revised version on July 19, 1999. The proposal consists of changes to one map. The area NEICO is proposing to delete has never been disturbed by coal mining and reclamation operations, it is not part of any of the soil borrow areas, and it is isolated from the rest of the permit area by Ridge Road.

While there should be no concerns with deleting this area from the permit area, at least one additional map needs to be revised, and NEICO needs to supply new acreage figures.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

MAPS, PLANS AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-521.130

Analysis:

Affected Area Maps

The applicant has proposed to delete all areas north of Ridge Road from the permit area. These areas have never been affected by coal mining and reclamation operations, and they are not included in the current plan for any future operations, such as topsoil borrow. The concept of

deleting the area north of Ridge Road from the permit area is acceptable, but the applicant needs to provide additional information and revise at least one map besides the one that has been changed.

The applicant has only changed one map, E9-3341, to show the revised permit area. This is the surface facilities and permit area map, and the permit refers to this map in connection with the legal description of the permit area. Several other maps in the operation and reclamation plan also show the permit area boundaries, but most of these are environmental resource maps that do not need to be updated. However, map E9-3333 shows the permit and disturbed area boundaries, and it should be current.

The Division is not aware of references to acreage figures that need to be changed in the operation and reclamation plan. The permit includes a legal description that will need to be changed if this amendment is approved. The applicant needs to supply acreage figures for the entire permit area, but this information does not need to be included in the plan.

Findings:

Information provided in the proposal is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations. Prior to final approval, the applicant must supply the following in accordance with:

R645-301-521.130, The applicant needs to revise map E9-3333 to show the new permit area boundary. In addition, the applicant needs to supply new acreage figures for the permit area and a legal description of this area; however, this information is for the permit and would not be included in the operation and reclamation plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The applicant needs to update map E9-3333 and to supply a new legal description and acreage figures.