

WATER QUALITY MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

December 1, 2003

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Gregg A. Galecki, Reclamation Specialist III

RE: 2003 First Quarter Water Monitoring, Nevada Electric Investment Co.,
Wellington Prep Plant, C/007/0012-WQ03-1, Task ID #164

- 1. Was data submitted for all of the MRP required sites?** YES [] NO []
Identify sites not monitored and reason why, if known:

Data was submitted for all surface-water, groundwater, and UPDES sites.

- 2. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.**
*Renewal of the permit is December 10, 2004. The MRP commits to sampling
baseline water parameters one year prior to the renewal date.*

Resampling due date 12/10/04

- 3. Were all required parameters reported for each site?** YES [] NO []

At Well GW-13, only depth to water was collected. GW-13 has very slow recovery. When initially pumped, the well produces less than a liter of water; barely enough to collect field parameters since August 2000. When allowing a day to recover, the well still does not produce any measurable water. GW-13 is located in a non-essential water monitoring area since the surface facilities no longer exist in the area. It is recommended that the site be removed from the Water Monitoring Plan.

All other parameters were reported at the remainder of the sites.

4. Were irregularities found in the data? YES [x] NO []

Previously observed apparent drops in the potentiometric surface in wells located east-northeast of the Price River have apparently stabilized. No distinct changes have occurred in the last two quarters. No changes in water quality have been observed with the exception of Well GW-4 where the TDS values have declined from approximately 4850 mg/l to 4400 mg/l (~10 % decrease) in the last two years.

At Well GW-7, located in the southwest portion of the permit area, shown a marked improvement in the amount of sulfate (SO₄) and total dissolved solids (TDS) since 1998. Both SO₄ and TDS have decreased by approximately 43 percent from approximately 2300 mg/l to 1300 mg/l SO₄, and approximately 4300 mg/l to 2400 mg/l TDS, respectively.

At Streams SW-1 and SW-2A water quality was exceptionally clean. Field observations attribute the good water quality on snowmelt observed in the stream. The attached graphs support this to a certain degree, but better quality water is not consistently associated with increased flow.

No other irregularities were found in the first quarter data.

5. Were DMR forms submitted for all required sites?

1st month, YES [x] NO []
2nd month, YES [x] NO []
3rd month, YES [x] NO []

Sites 003 through 008 had documentation for a site visits every month.

6. Were all required DMR parameters reported? YES [x] NO []

All sites were dry so no parameters were submitted

7. Were irregularities found in the DMR data? YES [] NO [x]

All sites were dry so no parameters were submitted

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8. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?

No further action is necessary for the 2003 03-1 (1st) Quarter Water Monitoring data.

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