

March 7, 2003

TO: Internal File

THRU: Priscilla W. Burton, Sr. Reclamation Specialist/Soils, Co-Team Lead
Dana Dean, Reclamation Specialist/Hydrology, Co-Team Lead

FROM: Karl R. Houskeeper, Environmental Scientist III

RE: Lila Canyon Extension, UtahAmerican Energy Inc., Horse Canyon Mine, C/007/013-PM02B-2

SUMMARY:

On February 11, 2002, the Division received a request for Lila Canyon extension (PM02B) of the Horse Canyon Mine Permit C/007/013. The Division received additional information that supplemented the application on April 25, 2002. An informal conference was held on May 21, 2002 to discuss concerns from SUWA. A second Technical Analysis was sent by Division on July 19, 2002. UEI's response to the second Technical Analysis was received on December 6, 2002.

The existing MRP for Horse Canyon is referred to as Part A and the application for Lila Canyon Extension is referred to as Part B. The permit area for Horse Canyon Part A is 1327.75 acres and the proposed permit area for Lila Canyon Extension Part B is 4,664.32 acres. The combination of Horse Canyon Part A and Lila Canyon Extension Part B would bring the total permit area to 5,992.07 acres. The application for the Lila Canyon Extension is classified as a significant revision. The review process for a significant revision is the same as the review process for a new permit application.

TECHNICAL MEMO

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

GENERAL CONTENTS

VIOLATION INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 773.15(b); 30 CFR 773.23; 30 CFR 778.14; R645-300-132; R645-301-113

Analysis:

A review of Appendix 1-3 Violation Information shows a list of violations from the applicant and any subsidiary or affiliate of the applicant. The information contained in Appendix 1-3 has been updated. Regulations requires that at least three years of violation history from the time of submission must be present in the application.

A prior review of the (AVS) Applicant Violator System showed the state civil penalty of Belmont Coal (OH permit D1020) is coded "C" indicating a settlement, payment plan, or pending challenge. A current review of the (AVS) Applicant Violator System indicates that the action referenced above has been taken care of.

Findings:

Information provided in this section of the application meets the minimum requirements of the regulations.

MAPS AND PLANS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 777.14; R645-301-140.

Analysis:

The maps submitted within the application meet the size requirements specified in the coal rules.

Plate 5-1, Previously Mined Areas, delineates the old works of the Horse Canyon Mine and the Book Cliffs Coal Company. Plate 5-1 has been updated with the years that mining and reclamation activities were conducted. This designation allows the reviewer to determine if the operations were conducted on/or before August 3, 1977 (Pre-SMCRA) and/or after August 3, 1977 (Post-SMCRA).

Findings

Information provided in this section of the application meets the minimum requirements of the regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The information submitted in Chapter 1, Legal, contains the information required by regulation and should be approved.