Horse Canyon Extension
Lila Canyon Mine

Chapter 8
Bonding & Insurance

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800. BONDING AND INSURANCE.

810. Bonding Definitions and Diversion Responsibilities.

811. Terms used in R645-301-800 may be found defined in R645-100-200.

812. Division Responsibilities - Bonding.

812.100. The Division will prescribe and furnish forms for filing performance bonds.

812.200. The Division will prescribe by regulation terms and conditions for performance bonds and insurance.

812.300. The Division will determine the amount of the bond for each area to be bonded, in accordance with R645-301-830. The Division will also adjust the amount as acreage in the permit area is revised, or when other relevant conditions change according to the requirements of R645-301-830.400.

812.400. The Division may accept a self-bond if the permittee meets the requirements of R645-301-860.300 and any additional requirements in the State or Federal program.

812.500. The Division will release liability under a bond or bonds in accordance with R645-301-880 through R645-301-880.800.

812.600. If the conditions specified in R645-301-880.900 occur, the Division will take appropriate action to cause all or part of a bond to be forfeited in accordance with procedures of that Section.

812.700. The Division will require in the permit that adequate bond coverage be in effect at all times. Except as provided in R645-301-840.520, operating without a bond is a violation of a condition upon which the permit is issued.

820. Requirement to file a Bond.

820.100. Before the permit is issued, The operator will file with the Division, on a form prescribed and furnished by the Division, a bond payable to the Division and

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conditioned upon the faithful performance of all the requirements of the State Program, the permit and the reclamation plan.

820.110. Areas to be covered by the Performance Bond are:

820.111. The bond will cover the proposed disturbed area within the permit area.

820.120. The operator will not disturb any surface areas or start any mining or slope work prior to acceptance by the Division of the required performance.

820.130. The applicant will file, with the approval of the Division, a bond or bonds under one of the following schemes to cover the bond amounts for the permit area as determined in accordance with R645-301-830:

820.132. A performance bond will be posted for the full reclamation of the entire proposed disturbed area within the permit area.

820.200. Form of the Performance Bond.

820.210. The Division will prescribe the form of the performance bond.

820.220. The Division may allow for:

820.221. The operator is proposing to post a surety bond for this operation.

820.300. Period of Liability.

820.310. Performance bond liability will be for the duration of the coal mining and reclamation operations and for a period which is coincident with the operator's period of extended responsibility for successful revegetation provided in R645-301-356 or until achievement of the reclamation requirements of the State Program and permit, whichever is later.

820.320. With the approval of the Division, a bond may be

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posted and approved to guarantee specific phases of reclamation within the permit area provided the sum of phase bonds posted equals or exceeds the total amount required under R645-301-830 and 830.400. The scope of work to be guaranteed and the liability assumed under each phase bond will be specified in detail.

820.330. Isolated and clearly defined portions of the permit area requiring extended liability may be separated from the original area and bonded separately with the approval of the Division. Such areas will be limited in extent and not constitute a scattered, intermittent, or checkerboard pattern of failure. Access to the separated areas for remedial work may be included in the area under extended liability if deemed necessary by the Division.

820.340. If the Division approves a long-term, intensive agricultural postmining land-use, in accordance with R645-301-413, the applicable five- or ten-year period of liability will commence at the date of initial planting for such long-term agricultural use.

820.350. General.

820.351. The bond liability of the permittee will include only those actions which he or she is obligated to take under the permit, including completion of the reclamation plan, so that the land will be capable of supporting the postmining land use approved under R645-301-413.

820.352. Implementation of an alternative postmining land-use approved under R645-301-413.300 which is beyond the control of the permittee need not be covered by the bond. Bond liability for prime farmland will be as specified in R645-301-880.320.

830. Determination of Bond Amount.

830.100. The amount of the bond required for each bonded area will:

830.110. Be determined by the Division;

830.120. The bonding calculations provided in Appendix 8-1

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of this chapter are based on the proposed permit and reclamation plan.

830.130. Bonding Calculations provided are based on probable difficulty of reclamation, with particular emphasis on the steep topography, as well as geologic hydrology and revegetation potential.

830.140. Detailed estimated bonding costs, with supporting calculations are provided in Appendix 8-1 of this permit application. See Appendix 5-8 for additional information.

Topsoil amounts can be found in Section 232.100 and is calculated from Plate 2-3
Concrete amounts can be found in Section 520.
Coal Mine Waste amounts can be found Page 2 and Figs 1 & 2 in Appendix 5-7.
General back fill can be fond in Table 1 of Appendix 5-4.

830.200. The proposed bond cost in Appendix 8-1 is based on current labor and equipment rates (Means, Cat Handbook) and are expected to be sufficient to assure the completion of the reclamation plan if the work has to be performed by the Division in the event of forfeiture.

830.300. The proposed reclamation cost has been inflated over a 5 year period (permit term) using te latest Gross National Index (GNI).

830.400. Adjustment of Amount.

830.410. The amount of the bond or deposit required and the terms of the acceptance of the applicant's bond will be adjusted by the Division from time to time as the area requiring bond coverage is increased or decreased or where the cost of future reclamation changes. The Division may specify periodic times or set a schedule for reevaluating and adjusting the bond amount to fulfill this requirement.

The Operator will submit to the Division as built drawings with mass balance calculations. The bond calculations may be revised to reflect the as built mass balance and final design of all structures.

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830.420. The Division will:

830.421. Notify the permittee, the surety, and any person with a property interest in collateral who has requested notification under R645-301-860.260 of any proposed adjustment to the bond amount; and

830.422. Provide the permittee an opportunity for an informal conference on the adjustment.

830.430. A permittee may request reduction of the amount of the performance bond upon submission of evidence to the Division providing that the permittee's method of operation or other circumstances reduces the estimated cost for the Division to reclaim the bonded area. Bond adjustments which involve undisturbed land or revision of the cost estimate of reclamation are not considered bond release subject to procedures of R645-301-880.100 through R645-301-880.800.

830.440. In the event that an approved permit is revised in accordance with the R645 rules, the Division will review the bond for adequacy and, if necessary, will require adjustment of the bond to conform to the permit as revised.

830.500. An operator's financial responsibility under R645-301-525.230 for repairing material damage resulting from subsidence may be satisfied by the liability insurance policy required under R645-301-890.

840. General Terms and Conditions of the Bond.

840.100. The performance bond will be in an amount determined by the Division as provided in R645-301-830.

840.200. The performance bond will be payable to the Division.

840.300. The performance bond will be conditioned upon faithful performance of all the requirements of the State Program and the approved permit, including completion of the reclamation plan.

840.400. The duration of the bond will be for the time period provided in R645-301-820.300.

840.500. General.

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840.510. The bond will provide a mechanism for a bank or surety company to give prompt notice to the Division and the permittee of any action filed alleging the insolvency or bankruptcy of the surety company, the bank, or the permittee, or alleging any violations which would result in suspension or revocation of the surety or bank charter or license to do business.

840.520. Upon the incapacity of a bank or surety company by reason of bankruptcy, insolvency, or suspension or revocation of a charter or license, the permittee will be deemed to be without bond coverage and will promptly notify the Division. The Division, upon notification received through procedures of R645-301-840.510 or from the permittee, will, in writing, notify the operator who is without bond coverage and specify a reasonable period, not to exceed 90 days, to replace bond coverage. If an adequate bond is not posted by the end of the period allowed, the operator will cease coal extraction and will comply with the provisions of R645-301-541.100 through R645-301-541.400 as applicable and will immediately begin to conduct reclamation operations in accordance with the reclamation plan. Mining operations will not resume until the Division has determined that an acceptable bond has been posted.

850. Bonding Requirements for UNDERGROUND COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES and Associated Long-Term Coal-Related Surface Facilities and Structures.

850.100. Responsibilities. The Division will require bond coverage, in an amount determined under R645-301-830, for long-term surface facilities and structures, and for areas disturbed by surface impacts incident to UNDERGROUND COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES, for which a permit is required. Specific reclamation techniques required for underground mines and long-term facilities will be considered in determining the amount of bond to complete the reclamation.

850.200. Long-term period of liability.

850.220. This facility will meet the definition of a long-term surface disturbance, and will be bonded as such.

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850.230. The bond will meet the requirements of continuous coverage throughout the required liability period.

850.240. The bond will meet the requirements of continuous coverage throughout the required liability period.

850.300. Bond Forfeiture. The Division will take action to forfeit a bond pursuant to R645-301-850 if 30 days prior to bond expiration the operator has not filed:

350.310. The bond will be renewed at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the permit term to provide continuous coverage.

850.320. The bond will be renewed as required to provide coverage for the period of liability, including the period of extended responsibility for successful revegetation.

860. Forms of Bonds.

860.100. It is proposed to post a surety bond for the Lila Canyon operation.

860.110. The surety bond will be executed by The Operator and a corporate surety licensed to do business in Utah.

860.120. The surety bond will be issued for the expected permit term (5 years) and will be noncancellable during the term.

870. Replacement of Bonds.

870.100. The Division may allow a permittee to replace existing bonds with other bonds that provide equivalent coverage.

870.200. The Division will not release existing performance bonds until the permittee has submitted, and the Division has approved, acceptable replacement performance bonds. Replacement of a performance bond pursuant to this section will not constitute a release of bond under R645-301-880.100 through R645-301-880.800.

880. Requirement to Release Performance Bonds.

880.100. Bond release application.

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occurrence of such pollution and the estimated cost of abating such pollution. The surface owner, agent or lessee will be given notice of such inspection and may participate with the Division in making the bond release inspection. The Division may arrange with the permittee to allow access to the permit area, upon request of any person with an interest in bond release, for the purpose of gathering information relevant to the proceeding.

880.220. Within 60 days from the filing of the bond release application, if no public hearing is held pursuant to R645-301-880.600, or, within 30 days after a public hearing has been held pursuant to R645-301-880.600, the Division will notify in writing the permittee, the surety or other persons with an interest in bond collateral who have requested notification under R645-301-860.260 and the persons who either filed objections in writing or objectors who were a party to the hearing proceedings, if any, if its decision to release or not to release all or part of the performance bond.

880.300. The Division may release all or part of the bond for the entire permit area if the Division is satisfied that all the reclamation or a phase of the reclamation covered by the bond or portion thereof has been accomplished in accordance with the following schedules for reclamation of Phases I, II and III:

880.310. At the completion of Phase I, after the operator completes the backfilling and regrading (which may include the replacement of topsoil) and drainage control of a bonded area in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, 60 percent of the bond or collateral for the applicable area;

880.320. At the completion of Phase II, after revegetation has been established on the regraded mined lands in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, an additional amount of bond. When determining the amount of bond to be released after successful revegetation has been established, the Division will retain that amount of bond for the revegetated area which would be sufficient to cover the cost of reestablishing revegetation if completed by a third party and for the period specified for operator responsibility in UCA 40-10-17(t) of the Act for reestablishing revegetation. No part of the bond or deposit will be released under this paragraph so

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occurrence of such pollution and the estimated cost of abating such pollution. The surface owner, agent or lessee will be given notice of such inspection and may participate with the Division in making the bond release inspection. The Division may arrange with the permittee to allow access to the permit area, upon request of any person with an interest in bond release, for the purpose of gathering information relevant to the proceeding.

880.220. Within 60 days from the filing of the bond release application, if no public hearing is held pursuant to R645-301-880.600, or, within 30 days after a public hearing has been held pursuant to R645-301-880.600, the Division will notify in writing the permittee, the surety or other persons with an interest in bond collateral who have requested notification under R645-301-860.260 and the persons who either filed objections in writing or objectors who were a party to the hearing proceedings, if any, if its decision to release or not to release all or part of the performance bond.

880.300. The Division may release all or part of the bond for the entire permit area if the Division is satisfied that all the reclamation or a phase of the reclamation covered by the bond or portion thereof has been accomplished in accordance with the following schedules for reclamation of Phases I, II and III:

880.310. At the completion of Phase I, after the operator completes the backfilling and regrading (which may include the replacement of topsoil) and drainage control of a bonded area in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, 60 percent of the bond or collateral for the applicable area;

880.320. At the completion of Phase II, after revegetation has been established on the regraded mined lands in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, an additional amount of bond. When determining the amount of bond to be released after successful revegetation has been established, the Division will retain that amount of bond for the revegetated area which would be sufficient to cover the cost of reestablishing revegetation if completed by a third party and for the period specified for operator responsibility in UCA 40-10-17(t) of the Act for reestablishing revegetation. No part of the bond or deposit will be released under this paragraph so

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long as the lands to which the release would be applicable are contributing suspended solids to stream flow or runoff outside the permit area in excess of the requirements set by UCA 40-10-17(j) of the Act and by R645-301-751 or until soil productivity for prime farmlands has returned to the equivalent levels of yield as nonmined land of the same soil type in the surrounding area under equivalent management practices as determined from the soil survey performed pursuant to UCA 40-10-11(4) of the Act and R645-301-200. Where a silt dam is to be retained as a permanent impoundment pursuant to R645-301-700, the Phase II portion of the bond may be released under this paragraph so long as provisions for sound future maintenance by the operator or the landowner have been made with the Division; and

880.330. At the completion of Phase III, after the operator has completed successfully all surface coal mining and reclamation operations, the release of the remaining portion of the bond, but not before the expiration of the period specified for operator responsibility in R645-301-357. However, no bond will be fully released under provisions of this section until reclamation requirements of the Act and the permit are fully met.

880.400. If the Division disapproves the application for release of the bond or portion thereof, the Division will notify the permittee, the surety, and any person with an interest in collateral as provided for in R645-301-860.260, in writing, stating the reasons for disapproval and recommending corrective actions necessary to secure the release and allowing an opportunity for a public hearing.

880.500. When an application for total or partial bond release is filed with the Division, the Division will notify the municipality in which the coal mining and reclamation activities are located by certified mail at least 30 days prior to the release of all or a portion of the bond.

880.600. Any person with a valid legal interest which might be adversely affected by release of the bond, or the responsible officer or head of any federal, state, or local governmental agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental, social or economic impact involved in the operation or which is authorized to develop and enforce environmental standards with respect to such operations, will have the right to file written

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objections to the proposed release from bond with the Division within 30 days after the last publication of the notice required by R645-301-880.120. If written objections are filed and a hearing is requested, the Division will inform all the interested parties of the time and place of the hearing and will hold a public hearing within 30 days after receipt of the request for the hearing. The date, time and location of the public hearing will be advertised by the Division in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality for two consecutive weeks. The public hearing will be held in the locality of the coal mining and reclamation operations from which bond release is sought, or at the location of the Division office, at the option of the objector.

880.700. For the purpose of the hearing under R645-301-880.600, the Division will have the authority to administer oaths, subpoena witnesses or written or printed material, compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of materials and take evidence including, but not limited to, inspection of the land affected and other surface coal mining operations carried on by the applicant in the general vicinity. A verbatim record of each public hearing will be made and a transcript will be made available on the motion of any party or by order of the Division.

880.800. Without prejudice to the right of an objector or the applicant, the Division may hold an informal conference as provided in UCA 40-10-13(a) of the Act to resolve such written objections. The Division will make a record of the informal conference unless waived by all parties, which will be accessible to all parties. The Division will also furnish all parties of the informal conference with a written finding of the Division based on the informal conference and the reasons for said finding.

880.900. Forfeiture of Bonds.

880.910. If an operator refuses or is unable to conduct reclamation of an unabated violation, if the terms of the permit are not met, or if the operator defaults on the conditions under which the bond was accepted, the Division will take the following action to forfeit all or part of a bond or bonds for any permit area or an increment of a permit area:

880.911. Send written notification by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the permittee and the surety on the bond, if any, informing them of the determination to forfeit all or part

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of the bond including the reasons for the forfeiture and the amount to be forfeited. The amount will be based on the estimated total cost of achieving the reclamation plan requirements;

880.912. Advise the permittee and surety, if applicable, of the conditions under which forfeiture may be avoided. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to:

880.912.1. Agreement by the permittee or another party to perform reclamation operations in accordance with a compliance schedule which meets the conditions of the permit, the reclamation plan and the State Program and a demonstration that such party has the ability to satisfy the conditions; or

880.912.2. The Division may allow a surety to complete the reclamation plan, or the portion of the reclamation plan applicable to the bonded phase or increment, if the surety can demonstrate an ability to complete the reclamation in accordance with the approved reclamation plan. Except where the Division may approve partial release authorized under R645-301-880.100 through R645-301-880.800, no surety liability will be released until successful completion of all reclamation under the terms of the permit, including applicable liability periods of R645-301-820.300.

880.920. In the event forfeiture of the bond is required by this section, the Division will:

880.921. Proceed to collect the forfeited amount as provided by applicable laws for the collection of defaulted bonds or other debts if actions to avoid forfeiture have not been taken, or if rights of appeal, if any, have not been exercised within a time established by the Division, or if such appeal, if taken, is unsuccessful; and

880.922. Use funds collected from bond forfeiture to complete the reclamation plan, or portion thereof, on the permit area or increment, to which bond coverage applies.

880.930. Upon default, the Division may cause the forfeiture of any and all bonds deposited to complete reclamation for which the bonds were posted. Bond liability will extend to the

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entire permit area under conditions of forfeiture.

880.931. In the event the estimated amount forfeited is insufficient to pay for the full cost of reclamation, the operator will be liable for remaining costs. The Division may complete, or authorize completion of, reclamation of the bonded area and may recover from the operator all costs of reclamation in excess of the amount forfeited.

880.932. In the event the amount of performance bond forfeited was more than the amount necessary to complete reclamation, the unused funds will be returned by the Division to the party from whom they were collected.

890. Terms and Conditions for Liability Insurance.

890.100. A certificate of liability insurance for the operation is included in this permit application in Appendix 8-2.

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