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From: "Marshall, Jay" <jmarshall@coalsource.com>
To: "Jim Smith" <jimsmith@utah.gov>
Date: 2/10/2009 4:32 PM
Subject: Revised Letter
Attachments: dosometer2-9-09.pdf

Jim:

I hope the additional verbiage is adequate. If not let me know.

R. Jay Marshall P.E.

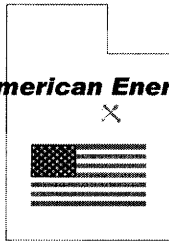
Chief Engineer and Project Manager

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UtahAmerican Energy, Inc.



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February 9, 2009

Daron Haddock
Permit Supervisor
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Re: UtahAmerican Energy, Inc. Horse Canyon Mine C/007/013.

Dear Mr. Haddock,

During a phone conversation on Thursday the 5th we discussed various options that were available to UEI that would result in DOGM being comfortable with surface blasting during the winter closures. It was stated during the Friday conversation that if USFW was OK with continuing blasting in portals #1 and #2 that DOGM would be OK with it.

On Friday the 6th UEI and two biologists from Environmental Industrial Services met with Nathan Darnall from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFW). We discussed the situation and concerns with Mr. Darnall. After detailed discussions Mr Darnall it was concluded that if UEI could show that the noise level from the shots in or near the surface was no louder than the equipment operating on the surface, then USFW would not have a problem with UEI continuing with all three portals.

As a result of the discussions with Mr. Darnall a noise survey was conducted at the time of the next shot which occurred today. Noise from various pieces of equipment at various distances was recorded with a hand held dosimeter. These results were compared with the recording from a blast in #0 portal. Fifty pounds of explosives was used in the recorded blast which is 15 pounds more than the initial surface blast. A constantly recording dosimeter was set 25 feet from the portal during the explosion. A second dosimeter was used to record the blast 100 feet away. A reading of 97 decibels was recorded 25 feet from the blast and 84.4 decibels was recorded 100 feet from the blast.

As can be seen by the results of the survey the noisiest piece of equipment is the face drill that gave a reading of 100.5 decibels 25 feet from the drill in portal #1. This same drill had a reading of 99 decibels 25 feet from the drill in portal #0. Our diesel generator has a reading of 90.5 decibels 25 feet from the generator. A D-10 cat has a reading of 84 decibels 25 feet from the cat. Keep in mind that at any one time the jumbo drill, three cats, four hammer-hoes, the diesel generator and numerous other miscellaneous pieces of equipment operating simultaneously.

As can be seen from the survey the 50 lb blast was less intrusive than was the drilling process using the jumbo drill. The diesel generator, operating constantly, was nearly as loud as was the blast. At 100 feet from the blast the decibel reading drops from 97 to 84.4. For comparison the heater in my Ford Explorer has a reading of 71.1 decibels.

The blast reading of 97 decibels was recorded only 25 feet from the portal and directly inline with the sound waves. The portal canopies contain all the flyrock and direct the sound out and away from the nest locations. The nest is located approximately 1,700 feet from the blast and around the corner out of direct line of the sound waves.

UEI will commit to using 35 lbs of explosives or less in the initial shots on portals #1 and #2. This reduction in explosives coupled with the sound study attached should alleviate any noise concerns with the first surface shots at portals #1 and #2. A qualified biologist will be onsite for the first shot in portals #1 and #2. The biologist will confirm that eagles are not on the nest prior to the shots occurring. Should eagles be observed on the nest prior to shooting, DOGM will be notified.

If there are any additional concerns please let me know immediately. The plan is to shoot the first shots at portals #1 and #2 on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning.

The third raptor inventory was completed today with no eagles sighted.

Should you have any questions please call.

Sincerely,

R. Jay Marshall
Chief Engineer/Project Manager