

#4090

Q

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

June 11, 2012

TO: Internal File

THRU: James Owen, Team Lead. *JO*

FROM: Priscilla Burton, Environmental Scientist III *PWB by SAS*

RE: Phase III bond release, UtahAmerican Energy, Horse Canyon Mine, C/007/013, #4090

SUMMARY:

On November 30, 2009, the Division granted Phase III bond release to UtahAmerican Energy 74.26 acres disturbed by the Horse Canyon Mine, including the 16.18 acres that was transferred to the College of Eastern Utah Foundation for a residential/recreational land use in September 2005, and 6.5 acres of reclaimed borrow area (see Task 3406). The Horse Canyon (Range Creek) public road was not included in the former mine permit area.

Bonding for a small remnant of the permit area was retained due to the reconstruction of 0.49 acres of Refuse Pile Channel Ditch 31 (0.49 acres). That work was completed on September 23, 2006 (Inspection Report 1124, November 2, 2006). Approval of this bond release is recommended pending a site inspection.

TECHNICAL MEMO

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-240.

Analysis:

Redistribution

The mine facilities area of 16.18 acres were deeded to the College of Eastern Utah in September 2005 (App. III-1-1). Structures remaining after reclamation to support the recreational/residential post mining land use are listed in Exhibit E of the Asset Assignment Agreement included as App. III-I-I of this application.

Grading of 51.56 acres at the Horse Canyon site was completed in 1991 and required disturbance of a 6.5 acre borrow area. Phase I bond release for the 51.56 acres was granted February 5, 1997 and Phase II bond release was granted on April 11, 2002. Neither Phase I, nor Phase II bond release was ever granted for the borrow area. On November 30, 2009, Phase III bond release was granted for all areas with the exception of 0.49 acres of reconstructed Ditch 31.

As Built information for these areas is found in Chap. 2 and 3 of Vol. 1. and Plates III-2A through G. A description of the grading work completed on the channel is found in Inspection Report 1124, November 2, 2006. The channel work was completed on September 23, 2006 and the site was seeded on November 27, 2006.

Findings:

The information meets the requirements of bond release for 0.49 acres on the Refuse Pile that is Ditch 31.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval is recommended pending a site inspection.