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Technical Analysis and Findings

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

May 21, 2015

PID: C0070013
TaskID: 4878
Mine Name: HORSE CANYON MINE
Title: WATER MONITORING FREQUENCY CHANGES

Operation Plan

Hydrologic Ground Water Monitoring

Analysis:

On April 17, 2015, the Division received a response to deficiencies of previous task ID 4816, to reduce water monitoring at the Lila Canyon Mine.
The Permittee submitted further explanation and justification for permanently suspending the monitoring requirements of spring location L-20-G. The permittee has stated that years of baseline monitoring were completed at the site and that the site is no longer needed for monitoring because it is outside the influence of any potential subsidence from the mine. L-20-G has not been undermined by the Lila Canyon mine and no longer needs to be monitored. The spring has shown no influence due to mining in the area.
The amendment has met the requirements of R645-301-731 allowing site L-20-G to be dropped from the water monitoring program.

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Hydro Surface Water Monitoring

Analysis:

On April 17, 2015, the Division received a response to deficiencies of previous task ID 4816, to reduce water monitoring at the Lila Canyon Mine.
The Permittee submitted further explanation and justification for permanently suspending the monitoring requirements of stream monitoring locations L-13-S and L-14-S.
L-13-S and L-14-S are dry washes that were monitored for surface water flow between 2000 and 2011. During this time, no flow was ever monitored. Due to the dry nature of the area around the Lila Canyon mine, many of these dry washed only flow during large storm events when it is difficult to access the sites. The baseline monitoring has characterized the washes and the sites are no longer necessary for monitoring.
The Permittee has also stated that it was a mistake to temporarily suspend their monitoring in 2011, when they should have been permanently suspended.
The amendment has met the requirements of R645-301-731 allowing sites L-13-S and L-14-S to be dropped from the water monitoring program.

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