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~~To mike T~~
File in AEP-Braztah's
Exp file Exp/007/008 &
File copy in mine file

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
POST OFFICE BLDG. RM. 270
1823 STOUT STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

9 JUL 1979

RECEIVED JUL 13 1979 DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Ron Daniels
Staff Assistant
Division of Oil, Gas and
Mining
Dept. of Natural Resources
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Reference: American Elecric Power Water Monitoring Well, Braztah #3, EXP/007/008

Dear ~~Mr. Daniels.~~ Ron

We are hereby providing our approval of the water monitoring well proposed by American Electric Power (AEP) on the Braztah #3 (Federal coal lease SL-071737) subject to any additional stipulations provided by the Geological Survey or the Bureau of Land Management.

This well is one of two wells proposed in correspondence from AEP to Mr. Thompson of your staff, dated May 31, 1979. However, we did not receive a copy of AEP's proposed drilling project until June 28, 1979. It was learned through a phone conversation with Mr. Thompson dated June 25, 1979, that AEP has modified their location of the water monitoring well located in Section 28, T. 12 S, R. 9 E. Our approval is conditioned upon the applicant's submittal of an updated well location map within five days of receiving this correspondence. Our approval is further conditioned upon the applicant's acquisition of all applicable Federal and State approvals necessary to drill and test the well as well as the timely submission, by the applicant, of a report of the drilling program, stratigraphic well logs, water quality and amounts of water encountered and produced, aquifer characteristics, and other pertinent information.

The proposed drilling project suggests the use of a seed mixture containing predominantly introduced grasses and native bushes. BLM has recommended this seed mixture as temporary cover instead of a permanent vegetation cover. A phone conversation with Mr. Berggren of the BLM Moab District

on July 2, 1979, confirmed that his office would have no objection to OSM changing the seed mix to all native species for areas that will not be re-disturbed. Therefore, our approval is further conditioned upon submittal, by the applicant within five days of receiving this correspondence, of a seed mixture list containing a predominantly native seed mix that will achieve permanent vegetation cover of the same seasonal variety native to the area of the disturbed land.

Additional information is needed to adequately review the proposed exploratory well plan. This should include plans for any excavation, road and pit construction, topsoil storage, regrading to the approximate original contour, and plugging of drill holes, if needed.

Copies of this letter are enclosed for transmittal to the applicant by your Office.

Sincerely,

DONALD A. CRANE

Enclosure

cc: Howard, BLM (1)
Feldmiller/USGS (2)
Daniels/UT-NS (2)
BLM District/Moab (1)