

ARCO Coal Compan,  
555 Seventeenth Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
Telephone 303 575 7502  
  
Environmental Services



March 13, 1980

Ms. Mary Ann Wright  
Reclamation Biologist  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and  
Mining  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Ms. Wright:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of March 3, 1980, and upon review of the "Consultation Procedures for Fish and Wildlife Studies," the Environmental and Permitting Services Group for the Beaver Creek Coal Company would like to submit this formal request to begin the consultation process. The Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine's OSM permit requires the submission of a wildlife survey plan within two months of approval (by May 9, 1980) as a provision of Special Stipulation #24. We also anticipate the need for similar wildlife survey plans for the Gordon Creek Mines No. 2, 3, and 6 and for the CV Spur facilities in order to prepare revised Mine and Reclamation plans under the Permanent Program.

In order to determine what fish and wildlife resources information will be required, to determine the level of detail and to determine the areas of study, we request the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining to commence to consultation process for each of these operations. Enclosed pursuant to the Consultation Procedures are the following:

- 1) Two maps of each area showing the permit area and adjacent areas with the proposed and/or existing facilities,
- 2) A short narrative of the operation of each site,
- 3) Legal description,
- 4) Notice of the coal and surface ownership. (This will be sent later.)

We would appreciate knowing those dates which would be convenient for you for the purpose of making the required

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site visits. It is anticipated that both an Environmental and Permitting Services staff member and a mine operations representative will be available to accompany the Division's biologist.

It is our current plan to select a qualified consultant and commence the necessary wildlife surveys based on the plan developed under this consultation process as soon as possible this spring. According to the OSM Special Stipulation #24, submission of a completed survey at the Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine is due to OSM by December 31, 1980. Submission of the completed surveys for the other properties are expected to be within 60 days of approval by OSM of the Utah State program.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, do not hesitate to contact me (303) 575-7504 or Dan Guy (801) 637-5050.

Sincerely,



James A. Ives  
Principal Environmental Coordinator  
Western Area

JAI:an  
Enclosures

cc: Dan Guy/Beaver Creek  
J. A. Holligan/DAT 2247  
Max Robb/Beaver Creek

GORDON CREEK NO. 2 MINE

The Gordon Creek No. 2 Mine portals are located in Bryner Canyon, approximately 13 miles NW of Price, Utah. Production in the No. 2 Mine started in late 1969. There are approximately 9.18 acres of surface disturbance. The surface facilities consist of a bathhouse, a storage trailer, and coal loadout facilities.

The general area of mining is in the NE part of the Wasatch Plateau in the Black Hawk formation of the Mesa Verde group. The No. 2 Mine is in the Castle Gate "A" (upper) seam. Reserves some 150 feet below, in the lower Hiawatha seam are projected to be reached with rock slopes, using existing portals.

The mine has been operating since 1968. There are two major faults running mainly east and west. The area is between the faults and the east boundaries will be developed by five-entry room and pillar system. Entries will be driven off these development entries into panels which will be first and second mined. "First mining," refers to pillars left standing for support. "Second mining," is a variation of room and pillar operation. Three or four entries with connecting cross cuts will be driven to the boundary of the panel.

Vegetation varies with slope aspect and elevation. The north facing slopes and higher elevations are composed mostly of aspen and douglas f r. The south facing slopes and lower elevations are covered mainly with grasses and brush. Dominant land use now as in the past is mining.

Legal Description

Tract No. 1: T13S, R7E, SLM, Utah  
Section 12: E $\frac{1}{2}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$  W $\frac{1}{2}$

T13S, R8E, SLM, Utah  
Section 18: lots 1-4, NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
E $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Containing 891.75 acres.

Tract No. 2: T13S, R7E, SLM, Utah  
Section 13: NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$  S $\frac{1}{2}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$

Containing 70.00 acres.

Tract No. 3: T13S, R8E, SLM, Utah  
Section 17: SW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 18: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Section 19: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SE $\frac{1}{4}$