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United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
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DENVER, COLORADO 80202

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JIM

August 29, 1983

RECEIVED
AUG 31 1983

Mr. James W. Smith, Jr.
Coordinator, Mined Land Development
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mr. Smith:

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

In response to my letter of August 5, 1983, to other Federal agencies requesting comments and concerns on the State-lead mines in Utah, we have received the enclosed comments from the Utah State Office of the Bureau of Land Management regarding the Gordon Creek No. 2 mine. We expect to receive a number of comments over the next several weeks regarding each of these mines. As they are received, copies will be forwarded to you and the appropriate project leader in your office.

SEP 02 1983

As we formulate comments on each of the applications, we will incorporate all Federal comments received to date on that mine. If we have no comments to add when requested, we will state that we have no comments and refer you to those received from other Federal agencies to date, so that they can be incorporated in your response to the applicant.

Please advise the applicant of the enclosed concerns as soon as possible so that they can be addressed in the applicant's next response.

Again, we apologize for our delay in soliciting these Federal agency comments, but our new task force organization and staffing is now beginning to help us track each project more closely. As always, if you have any questions, please contact either Lou Hamm or Walter Swain at (303) 837-3806.

Sincerely,

Walter Swain
Stephen Manger
Utah Task Force Leader
Western Technical Center

cc: Steve Cox, UDOGM



IN REPLY
REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

U-8319
(U-921)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Utah State Office
2040 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING
August 12, 1983

Memorandum

To: Western Technical Center Manager, OSM
Attn: Mr. Louis Hamm, Project Leader

From: Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals, State Office
BLM, Salt Lake City

Subject: ARCO Coal Company, Beaver Creek Coal Company,
Gordon Creek No. 2 Mine, Carbon County, Utah,
Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP)



Mr. Manger's letter dated August 5, 1983, requested that this office submit a list of concerns for each of six permit applications, one of which is the subject plan. We have reviewed the material submitted to this office for this plan and the only remaining concerns we have are addressed in our comment letter dated April 27, 1983. Principally, this effort was to check out these concerns. Our comments follow:

1. In lieu of revising the unapproved resource recovery and protection plan (underground part of the permit application or MRP plan) as required by 30 CFR 211.10(b) effective August 30, 1982, furnish a cross-reference index showing where each specific part of the new 30 CFR 211.10(b) rules, effective August 30, 1982, can be found in the total submission of the permit application package.
2. Furnish a complete coal analysis for the Castlegte "A" seam as required by 30 CFR 211.10(b)(3)(i).
3. Submit a statement to be a part of the underground mining plan that is worded similar to the following: "The BLM is to be involved in and approve any changes in resource recovery or abandonment including portal sealing." We are asking for this statement to emphasize that the BLM is responsible to see that the resource will be fully recovered under existing economics, mining conditions, and available equipment. Basic concepts of multiple seam mining will be difficult if not impossible to apply in the Gordon Creek No. 2 mine because of the intricate pattern of geologic fault systems.

We have determined that the total permit application received in this office will obtain maximum economic recovery of the resource using current technology and available equipment. When the above three requested items are furnished by the company, we recommend, within our area of authority under the 30 CFR 211.10(b) rules effective August 30, 1982, that the underground mining plan part of the permit application be approved.

J. Gordon Whitney
Acting