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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

ACT/007/016 # 2

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

August 31, 1987

Mr. Dan W. Guy, Manager
Permitting & Compliance
Beaver Creek Coal Company
P. O. Box 1378
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Guy:

Re: Denial of PAP Amendment, Request to Revise Subsidence Monitoring Plan, Beaver Creek Coal Company, Gordon Creek No. 2 and 7 Mines, ACT/007/016-87C, Folder No. 2, Carbon County, Utah

The Division cannot approve the above referenced PAP amendment request as submitted. As outlined in the attached memo, following completion of the 1987 subsidence monitoring activities, Beaver Creek Coal Company can re-submit this amendment request for reconsideration.

Additionally, in response to your phone inquiry of August 17, 1987 regarding the frequency of monitoring for subsidence, page 3-5-3 of the approval plan notes monitoring will occur at six month intervals, weather permitting. Given access on top of Beaver Creek is 3-4 months at best; you should endeavor to space measurements as far apart as possible during the field season.

Thank you for your cooperation in completing this permitting activity. As always, please call should you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

John J. Whitehead
Permit Supervisor/
Reclamation Hydrologist

djh
Attachment
cc: P. Rutledge R. Hagen
W. Hedberg R. Smith
P.F.O.

8992R/41



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August 4, 1987

TO: Coal File
FROM: Richard V. Smith, Geologist *RVS*
RE: Subsidence Monitoring Plan Amendment Request, Beaver Creek Coal Company, Gordon Creek #2 and 7 Mine, ACT/007/016, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Synopsis

The operator has submitted a request to amend the subsidence monitoring plan given in the approved Gordon Creek #2 and 7 Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP). The proposed amendment incorporates changes in monitoring frequency from twice a year to once a year and monitoring methodology from a conventional transit survey to either an aerial survey or a conventional transit survey.

The operator conducted conventional transit surveys to monitor subsidence on 7/19/86 and 10/27/86 for stations above the #2 Mine and on 9/24/86, 6/12/86, and 10/14/86 for stations above the #7 Mine (Gordon Creek #2 and 7 Mine, Annual Report for 1986). In summary, these data from one monitoring season indicate vertical movement from several inches (or less) to over one foot.

Review

The limited data suite from one monitoring season (summer of 1986) are not conducive to demonstrating the validity of transit measurements. Accordingly, the resolution of measurements derived from an aerial survey will be unknown.

Recommendation

The operator should be informed that:

1. Subsidence monitoring as described in the Gordon Creek #2 and 7 MRP must be completed for the 1987 monitoring season;

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2. The Division will continue to require yearly transit measurements at stations located along Beaver Creek until data demonstrate stabilization of the ground;
3. Following collection of data from two monitoring seasons (1986 and 1987) the Division will reconsider this proposed amendment; and
4. The proposed amendment should incorporate detailed descriptions of aerial survey monuments and methods used to derive ground movement and determine measurement accuracy.

djh
cc: J. Whitehead
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