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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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November 1, 1989

TO: Richard V. Smith, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Henry Sauer, Reclamation Soils Specialist *HS*

RE: Stipulation Response, UMC 817.23-(1,2)-(HS), Beaver Creek Coal Company, Gordon Creek #2, #7 and #8 Mines, ACT/007/016, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Synopsis

Stipulation UMC 817.23 addressed on replacement Plate 8-2 and Table 8-5A, is insufficient to satisfy Stipulation UMC 817.23-(1, 2)-(HS). The following issues must be more clearly depicted or stated.

Analysis and Recommendation

The as-built surveys of the topsoil stockpiles (Plate 8-2) are deficient. Volume estimates of stored topsoil can not be calculated utilizing the provided information. The operator must provide cross sections and accurate contour lines by which volume estimates can be determined.

Table 8-5A is erroneous and misleading. Topsoil redistribution depths for the No. 7 and No. 8 Mines should be 12 inches. Calculations for required topsoil volumes should change accordingly. Topsoil and subsoil should be individually defined for the reclamation of the No. 7 Mine. Subsoil volume estimates should be included within the table. Plant growth medium should be identified as topsoil, subsoil, or substitute topsoil.

According to present estimates, approximately 8,000 cubic yards of subsoil exist, and are stockpiled on the No. 7 pad. Additionally, approximately 3,700 cubic yards of topsoil exist for reclamation of the No. 7 Mine and are stockpiled on the No. 2 pad. Hence, 11,700 cubic yards of plant growth medium is available for the reclamation of the No. 7 Mine disturbance (7.5 acres). An average topsoil redistribution depth of 11 inches could be achieved across 7.5 acres of regrade spoils. Table 8-5A must reflect this mass balance calculation.

djh
AT97/29