



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 6, 1993

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Jess Kelley, Reclamation Engineer *JK*

RE: Chronology of Division's Attempt to Involve Office of Surface Mining's Western Technical Center (WTC) in Design of Highwall Reclamation, Mountain Coal Company, Gordon Creek #2, #7 & #8 Mine, ACT/007/016, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SYNOPSIS and ANALYSIS

The following is a chronology of the Division's unsuccessful efforts to involve the Western Technical Center (WTC) of OSM in designing an acceptable reclamation plan for the highwalls at this site:

- August 6, 1991** Dianne Nielson, Lowell Braxton, Jess Kelley, and Dan Guy met at the site to look at the highwalls and discuss possible ways of reclaiming them. At this meeting, it was decided that the Division and the operator would seek the assistance of WTC in the process of "formulation and approval" of a highwall reclamation plan which would be both technically sound and acceptable to the Division and to OSM.
- August 12, 1991** Jess Kelley contacted Merline Van Dyke of WTC to request assistance. He was told by Van Dyke that the Division would have to make a formal request for such assistance in writing, but that WTC wanted to look at some information from the site in the meantime.
- August 14, 1991** Jess Kelley talked with Gene Hay of WTC. Hay requested some information about the site, particularly as-built drawings and geological logs. Kelley wrote a letter to Hay explaining the situation.

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- August 19, 1991** Jess Kelley sent Gene Hay the information requested on August 14. Dianne Nielson formally requested WTC's assistance by letter.
- September 27, 1991** Jess Kelley talked with Gene Hay about this site. Apparently, Hay had forgotten about the matter, because he told Kelley that he (Hay) would talk with his boss about it.
- October 1, 1991** Jess Kelley talked with Karen Jass of WTC. She said that her and Gene Hay's boss, Charlie Harrison, had given the task of looking at this site to her. She also said that she would make a visit to the site on October 8, 1991, but that the final decision would be made between the Division and OSM's Albuquerque Field Office (AFO).
- October 8, 1991** Karen Jass visited other sites, but, for reasons which she did not explain, failed to visit the Gordon Creek #2, #7 & #8 site. After this, there was, to the writer's knowledge, no further contact between the Division and WTC regarding a joint analysis of reclamation of the highwalls.

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