

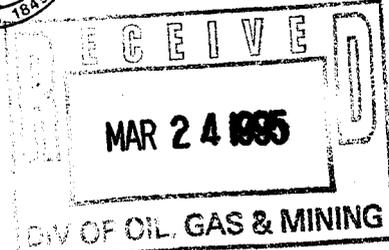


United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Reclamation and Enforcement

Washington, D.C. 20240



MAR 20 1995

Memorandum

To: Acting Assistant Director, Western Support Center
Acting Director, Albuquerque Field Office

From: Ed Kay *Ed Kay*
Deputy Director

Subject: Mountain Coal Company, Gordon Creek #2, #7 and #8 Mines
Ten-Day Notice No. 94-020-352-003

As we recently discussed, I am remanding the subject case to the Albuquerque Field Office and the Western Support Center (WSC) to work with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGGM) to look at various highwall issues that may be unique to Utah and the Western States.

In carrying out this shared commitment, Mr. James Carter, DOGGM Director, is sending WSC additional information that will assist in your efforts to:

- Conduct an on-site technical review of the highwall and approximate original contour issues at the Gordon Creek #2, #7, and #8 Mines;
- Prepare a priority plan to make site-visits at a variety of other sites where approximate original contour reclamation issues need to be studied; and
- Determine whether there are programmatic issues concerning highwall elimination and approximate original contour that may need to be addressed through a mechanism other than Ten-day Notices.

Please inform me at the conclusion of the joint technical and programmatic study, and we will develop an appropriate course of action to resolve any outstanding issues.

cc: Mr. James W. Carter
Director, Utah Division of Oil
Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203