



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 23, 2000

TO: [REDACTED]

THRU: Susan White, Permit Supervisor *SMW*

FROM: Wayne Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist *WFW*

RE: Revision to the Permit Area, Mountain Coal Company, Gordon Creek 2 7 & 8,
[REDACTED] AM99C-2

SUMMARY:

Changes to the Gordon Creek No. 2, No. 7, & No. 8 permit were received on July 25, 2000. The Division received the first request for the permit area change on February 3, 2000. That submittal contained deficiencies and was denied. The Division reviewed the deficiency response. This memo deals with the engineering and geology deficiencies.

OPERATION PLAN

SUBSIDENCE CONTROL PLAN

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.20, 817.121, 817.122; R645-301-521, -301-525, -301-724.

Analysis:

Performance Standards for Subsidence Control

Subsidence monitoring above the Gordon Creek No. 2, No. 7, & No. 8 mines began in 1986 and was ended in 1998. The permittee reports the measured amount of subsidence in Appendix 3-11 of the July 25, 2000 submittal. Only minor amounts of subsidence occurred above the No. 7 and No. 8 mines. The subsidence features that were seen at those sites included measured surface subsidence of up to 4.1 feet, minor slumps and small subsidence troughs. All of those subsidence features have since be repaired or self-healed.

TECHNICAL MEMO

Subsidence was more substantial above the No. 2 mine. Minor fractures are present in the Right Fork above the No. 2 Mine workings. The fractures may have occurred in the 1960s or 1970s. They have self-healed and are now barely visible.

The Division determined in 1998 that subsidence had stabilized and that there were no subsidence features that posed a hazard or an environmental problem. After that determination was made, the Division approved the permittee to stop the subsidence monitoring program.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the permit reduction request.

RECLAMATION PLAN

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

Analysis:

The application states that all drill holes have been cemented and plugged. No wells were associated with this property.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the permit area reduction.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Division should approve the request for a reduction in the permit boundaries.