

0006

Mine File  
L13

**Beaver Creek Coal Company**

P.O. Box 1578  
Price, Utah 84501  
Telephone 801 637-5050



**RECEIVED**  
FEB 20 1986

February 19, 1986

**DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING**

Mr. Lowell Braxton  
Administrator  
Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

RE: Technical Deficiency Review  
Gordon Creek #3 & #6 Mines  
INA/007/017 #2  
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Braxton:

Enclosed are 8 copies of the Beaver Creek Coal Company response to the Technical Deficiency Review on the Gordon Creek No. 3 and 6 Mines.

A checklist is provided for the location of the response to each of the review comments. The new sheets and maps are numbered and dated, and should simply replace corresponding pages and maps in the M.R.P.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Dan W. Guy  
Manager of Permitting and Compliance

DWG/sb

Enclosures

cc: Jay Marshall (BCCC) (without attachments)  
File 4-P-7-1-1 (without attachments)  
IBM-D1

**FILE COPY**

U. S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
P O Box 25367  
Denver, Colorado 80225  
Coal Mine Safety and Health  
District 9

Mine file  
Rick Smith  
J. white lead



February 12, 1986

Lowell P. Braxton, Administrator  
Mineral Resource Development  
and Reclamation Program  
State of Utah, Natural Resources  
Oil, Gas & Mining  
355 W. Temple, 3 Triad Center  
Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180

*JNA/007/017*  
*#2*

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 21 1986

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Mr. Braxton:

The files and maps of Gordon Creek Mines #3 and #6 have been reviewed in response to your letter of January 23, 1986. MSHA was informed of the permanent closure and sealing of the subject mines by an operator correspondence dated September 12, 1983. A copy of that letter is enclosed.

As you may be aware, MSHA has authority neither to approve final sealing installations, nor to require additional measures. The operator is, however, obligated to comply with the applicable federal regulation, that being 30 CFR 75.1711-2.

Specifically in answer to your questions, MSHA does not have records indicating that the final sealing was due to unsafe roof conditions. Secondly, aside from an imminent danger order, additional work at the portal areas is not prohibited. The Office of Surface Mining (OSM) may be able to provide information regarding surface reclamation.

If this office can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Knepp at (303)236-2743.

Sincerely,

*Dr. P. Knepp*  
*son*

John W. Barton  
District Manager

Enclosure:



September 12, 1983

Mr. John Barton  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
Health & Safety Analysis Center  
P.O. Box 25367, Federal Center  
Denver, CO 80225

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 21 1986

**DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING**

RE: Closure of the Gordon Creek No. 3 Mine

Dear Mr. Barton:

The Gordon Creek No. 3 Mine reserve has been depleted and closed. This letter is intended to comply with the 30CFR regulation 75.1204 requiring the notification of the MSHA District Manager of a mine closure.

The four portals at the No. 3 Mine were sealed on 9/7/83 by backfilling each portal to a minimum of 30 feet from the highwall. The portal support structures were removed, allowing for a small caving effect at the highwall, effectively sealing each entrance.

The three portal support structures at the overlying No. 6 Mine were also removed allowing for a complete caving of the entries 30 to 40 feet beyond the highwall, completely sealing each entrance.

The reclamation of the mine sites are scheduled to begin this fall and to be complete next fall. During this process, the portal areas as well as the exposed outcrop will be covered with additional fill to eliminate all traces of the portal areas.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Richard Robison  
Engineering Manager

cc: L. Bishop  
T. Gabossi  
C. McGlothlin  
L. Tinker  
File 7-1-1

9-15-83  
*[Handwritten initials]*

Knepp



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

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

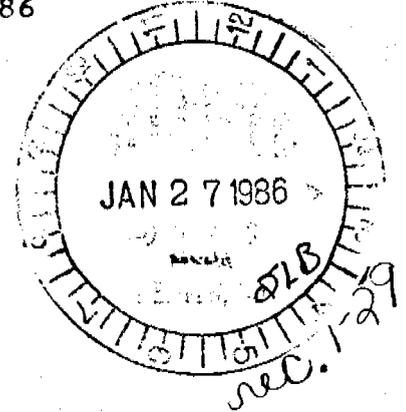
355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

RECEIVED  
FEB 21 1986

January 23, 1986

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. John Barton  
Mine Safety and Health Administration  
Health and Safety Analysis Center  
P. O. Box 25367, Federal Center  
Denver, Colorado 80225



Dear Mr. Barton:

RE: Closure of the Gordon Creek #3 Portals, Beaver Creek Coal Company, Gordon Creek #3 and #6 Mines, INA/007/017, #2, Carbon County, Utah

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM) is currently reviewing the reclamation plan for the Gordon Creek #3 and #6 Mines. DOGM requires operators to install concrete block portal seals with two inch diameter water drains, if operations encountered mine inflows. Apparently, these portal sealing procedures were not initiated in September 1983 when the Gordon Creek #3 and #6 Mine portals were permanently abandoned.

DOGM is concerned that the portal abandonment measures employed at the Gordon Creek #3 and #6 Mines were inadequate to prevent (1) portal seal "blow out" if hydraulic head develops in the abandoned workings and (2) seals from allowing ventilation to occur and thereby, feed the fire in the adjacent National Mine workings.

Would you please examine your records and regulations to answer the following questions for our clarification:

1. Are Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) records available that document portal sealing measures at the Gordon Creek #3 and #6 Mines were employed due to unsafe roof conditions at the time of closure.

11

Page 2  
Mr. John Barton  
INA/007/017  
January 23, 1986

RECEIVED  
FEB 21 1986

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

2. Are there MSHA or other safety constraints or prohibitions that would preclude reopening the portals to install concrete blocks seals with water drains and backfilling.

Your response to these two questions would be most appreciated. Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Lowell P. Braxton*

Lowell P. Braxton  
Administrator  
Mineral Resource Development  
and Reclamation Program

RVS/btb  
cc: Dan Guy  
Tony Gabossi  
Rick Smith  
John Whitehead  
9294R-50 & 51





# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Moab District  
Price River Resource Area  
P. O. Drawer AB  
Price, Utah 84501

*Mine File  
D.W. Nobby*

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 27 1986

3400  
(U-8319)  
(U-066)

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Robert J. Marshall  
Engineering Supervisor  
Beaver Creek Coal Company  
P. O. Box 1378  
Price, Utah 84501

*INA/007/017  
# 16*

FEB 25 1986

Dear Mr. Marshall:

A minor modification to the R2P2 part of the approved mine plan for Gordon Creek No. 7 mine was submitted February 11, 1986. This minor modification shows the proposed Southwest Main development to be driven west beyond the rock slopes which were recently driven through the major fault zone. It also provides an offset and continuation of the main entry development toward the western boundary of the lease. The Southwest Mains will provide access to the coal resources located north and south of these mains.

Accordingly, your proposal is approved to drive main entries west to the west boundary barrier (50 feet from the west boundary line) or a major fault, whichever is encountered first. Also it is noted and approved to reduce the panels from seven to five entries on development and then develop the other two entries as part of the room development on retreat.

An additional proposal must be submitted showing the location of panels to be developed north and/or south off the Southwest Mains before such panel development begins.

If you have any questions please contact Allen Vance of my staff at 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

**/s/ Leon E. Berggren**

Leon E. Berggren  
Area Manager

**Enclosures (2)**

- 1-Approved Minor Modification  
dated 2/11/86
- 2-Approved mine map

cc: DM, Moab (U-065)(w/encl.)  
SD, Utah (U-921)(w/encl.)  
OSM, Denver (w/encl.)  
DOGM, Utah (w/encl.)

Mine File  
Dw. Nobby



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Moab District  
Price River Resource Area  
P. O. Drawer AB  
Price, Utah 84501

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 27 1986

3400  
(U-8319)  
(U-066)

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Robert J. Marshall  
Engineering Supervisor  
Beaver Creek Coal Company  
P. O. Box 1378  
Price, Utah 84501

*JMA/007/017  
#3*

FEB 25 1986

Dear Mr. Marshall:

A minor modification to the R2P2 part of the approved mine plan for Gordon Creek No. 7 mine was submitted February 11, 1986. This minor modification shows the proposed Southwest Main development to be driven west beyond the rock slopes which were recently driven through the major fault zone. It also provides an offset and continuation of the main entry development toward the western boundary of the lease. The Southwest Mains will provide access to the coal resources located north and south of these mains.

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Sincerely yours,

*/s/ Leon E. Berggren*

Leon E. Berggren  
Area Manager

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- 1-Approved Minor Modification dated 2/11/86
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- cc: DM, Moab (U-065)(w/encl.)
- SD, Utah (U-921)(w/encl.)
- OSM, Denver (w/encl.)
- DOGM, Utah (w/encl.)



Beaver Creek Coal Company

P.O. Box 1378

Price, Utah 84501

Telephone 801 637-5050

File: INA/007/017

# 3, 7

~~Wayne~~

RECEIVED



JAN 30 1986

DIVISION OF OIL  
GAS & MINING

January 30, 1986

Mr. Lowell Braxton  
Administrator  
Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

**FILE COPY**

RE: Request for Sediment Pond Approval  
and Clarification of Permit Area  
Gordon Creek No. 3 & 6 Mines  
INA/007/017  
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Braxton:

During a recent inspection, Mr. Dave Lof of the I/E staff noted 2 deficiencies in our mine plan that should be corrected. These were: (1) No written agency approval of the sediment ponds that were constructed in 1979; and (2) A discrepancy in the permit boundary shown in the M.R.P.

At his request, I am forwarding for your approval, 8 copies of the original sediment pond design and 8 copies each of corrected permit area figures for the M.R.P.

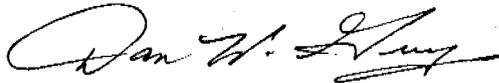
I am in the process of preparing the response to the recent Division D.O.C./T.D. on this property. The updated permit area will be shown on all applicable revised Plates and Figures at that time; however, the figures I have submitted with this letter will serve to clarify any questions on the permit area in the interim.

The sediment ponds were reconstructed in 1979. I have submitted the same Exhibit 6 that was originally sent to the Division. This was early in the history of the program, and it wasn't uncommon for an official approval not to have been issued on a pond or other structure. This area, as you know, will be reclaimed this year, and the ponds will be modified at that time. Although it may serve no useful purpose to approve the original (existing) ponds at this time, it will complete our records and eliminate an inspection and enforcement question.

Page 2  
January 30, 1986

I appreciate your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions, or need any further information, please let me know.

Respectfully,



Dan W. Guy  
Manager of Permitting and Compliance

DWG/sb

Enclosures

cc: Jay Marshall (BCCC)  
Dave Lof (DOGM)  
File 4-P-7-1-1  
File 4-P-7-1-6-1  
IBM D3

Exhibit #6: Sediment Control Plan

Exhibit #6  
Sediment Control Plan

1. General - The complete sediment control plan for this area is attached. In general, all drawings from the disturbed area, plus some natural drainage, is collected at a low point, just above the sedimentation/treatment ponds. All other natural drainage above the mine site is diverted beneath the site and ponds via a 48-inch diameter culvert (to be extended).
2. Culvert - The 48-inch culvert is sized to support the flow from a ten-year, 24-hour precipitation event. In addition, the location of the culvert inlet allows for some eight feet of head storage above the culvert before any overflow occurs. The culvert inlet will be fitted with an appropriate trash rack, and the outlet will be rip-rapped to lessen any erosion possibilities.
3. Existing Pond Discharge - The existing pond will no longer be used as a cleaning facility and will be modified to safely pass any flow from the culvert and sedimentation facility without adding to downstream sediment loading. The area below the pond was used as a filling station for the road-watering trucks, but has since been eliminated. The truck filling system will be moved onto the coal loading pad above the ponds and any spillage or runoff from this area will pass through the ponds.

Gordon Creek #3 & #6 Mines  
Plan for Construction and Maintenance  
Sedimentation Ponds and Diversion Structures

General Description

The combined disturbed areas of the #3 and #6 Mines total some 7.96 acres. The runoff from this area drains into an intermittent stream channel in Coal Canyon. This area drains into Gordon Creek and eventually into the Price River.

In order to minimize additional sediment loading to any stream from this area, it is proposed to by-pass the natural drainage above this area through a 48-inch culvert beneath the mine site. The runoff from the mine sites, along with any mine discharge water, will be collected into two filtering type sedimentation ponds and cleaned prior to discharge.

An overall drainage map of the area, including location of the proposed structures, is attached. Listed below are specifications for the proposed sedimentation structures:

Specifications

**Location:** The proposed ponds will be in the existing drainage below the #3 Mine site (see attached map). The culvert for natural drainage will be extended some 250 feet.

**Alternate Location:** The attached location map shows an alternate site downstream from the proposed sites. The use of this site would cause further environmental disturbance and would necessitate piping the runoff and mine water some 1500 feet before discharge to the pond. The alternate site is also on private land which is owned by others.

**Design:** The ponds are designed to continuously settle, clean, and pass the water, rather than hold it for evaporation. The #3 Mine is discharging water, and in order to clean this discharge as per requirements of the NPDES Permit, it is impossible to contain all of this flow. The ponds will serve two purposes --- first, to clean the mine discharge water; and secondly, to clean any runoff water from the disturbed areas of the mine sites.

**Construction:** The construction of the ponds will be under the direction of a licensed engineer.

**Capacity:** The structures will have a capacity adequate to store the runoff and sediment load from a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event, with an overflow capacity in excess of that for a 6-hour

25-year event. The ponds shown on the attached map will have a capacity of 2.01 acre-feet.

**Safety Precautions:** The structure will be regularly inspected by a qualified individual as required by law. The ponds will be cleaned as necessary, and any weakness or defects in the structure will be immediately corrected.

**Monitoring:** The pond discharge will be monitored as per the requirements of the NPDES Permit. Additional monitoring stations will be submitted with the Water Monitoring Program for this area.

**Diversions:** Natural runoff will be collected in a canyon directly upstream from the substation (see map). This runoff will pass beneath the property (and ponds) via a 48-inch diameter culvert. The culvert will be extended some 250 feet from its present discharge point to allow for placement of the ponds.

**Maintenance:** The sedimentation ponds shall be inspected after each major storm, and the sediment cleaned as necessary. Sediment removed shall be stored adjacent to the topsoil and used for final reclamation, if the quality is found to be acceptable. If the quality is not suitable for reclamation, it can be taken underground or to an approved refuse site for final disposal.

**Calculations: Undisturbed Soil**

1. Use 2-inch figure for 10-year, 24-hour event
- \*2. Table A-4 p. 538 - Runoff Curve No. (CN) = 54  
Cover - Oak, Aspen  
Condition - Fair  
Soil Group - C (Slow Infiltration Rate)
- \*3. Figure A-4 p. 541 - Direct Runoff = 0.03 inches
4. Drainage Area = 39.29 acres. Total runoff will be .03" x 39.29 acres = 1.18 acres inch or .10 acre feet

**Disturbed Area**

1. Use 2-inch figure
- \*2. Table A-4 p. 538 - Runoff Curve No. (CN) = 85  
Cover - Herbaceous  
Condition - Poor  
Soil Group - C
- \*3. Figure A-4 p. 541 - Direct Runoff = .80 inches
4. Drainage Area = 7.96 acres. Total runoff will be .80" x 7.96 acres = 6.37 acres inch or .53 acre feet

**Sedimentation Pond Size:**

1. Sediment storage volume shall be .10 acre-foot per acre of disturbed area. The disturbed area is measured to be 7.96 acres; therefore, the sediment storage area must be .796 or .80 acre-feet.

2. Total storage volume shall need to be a minimum of .10 acre-feet for undisturbed area runoff, plus .53 acre-feet for disturbed area runoff, and .80 acre-feet for sediment storage, or a total of 1.43 acre-feet.

#### Natural Drainage:

1. Area = 907.3 acres - 47.3 acres = 860.0 acres
- \*2. Same CN as Undisturbed Area = .54
- \*3. Direct runoff = .03 inches
4. Total runoff - 860 acres x .03" = 25.8 acres inch or 2.15 acre feet
5. 2.15 acre feet x 326,700 gallons/acre-foot = 702,405 gallon runoff
6. 702,405 gallon ÷ 600 minutes = 1170 gpm during 10-hour event
7. Assume peak runoff @ 3 times average = 1170 gpm x 3 = 3510 gpm
8. This amount of water can be passed through a 48-inch culvert at a velocity of less than .70 feet/second with nearly zero head loss; therefore, no buildup should occur at the inlet to the culvert. There is, however, a potential for some surge capacity at the inlet if required. The culvert is about eight feet below the ground level at the inlet point.

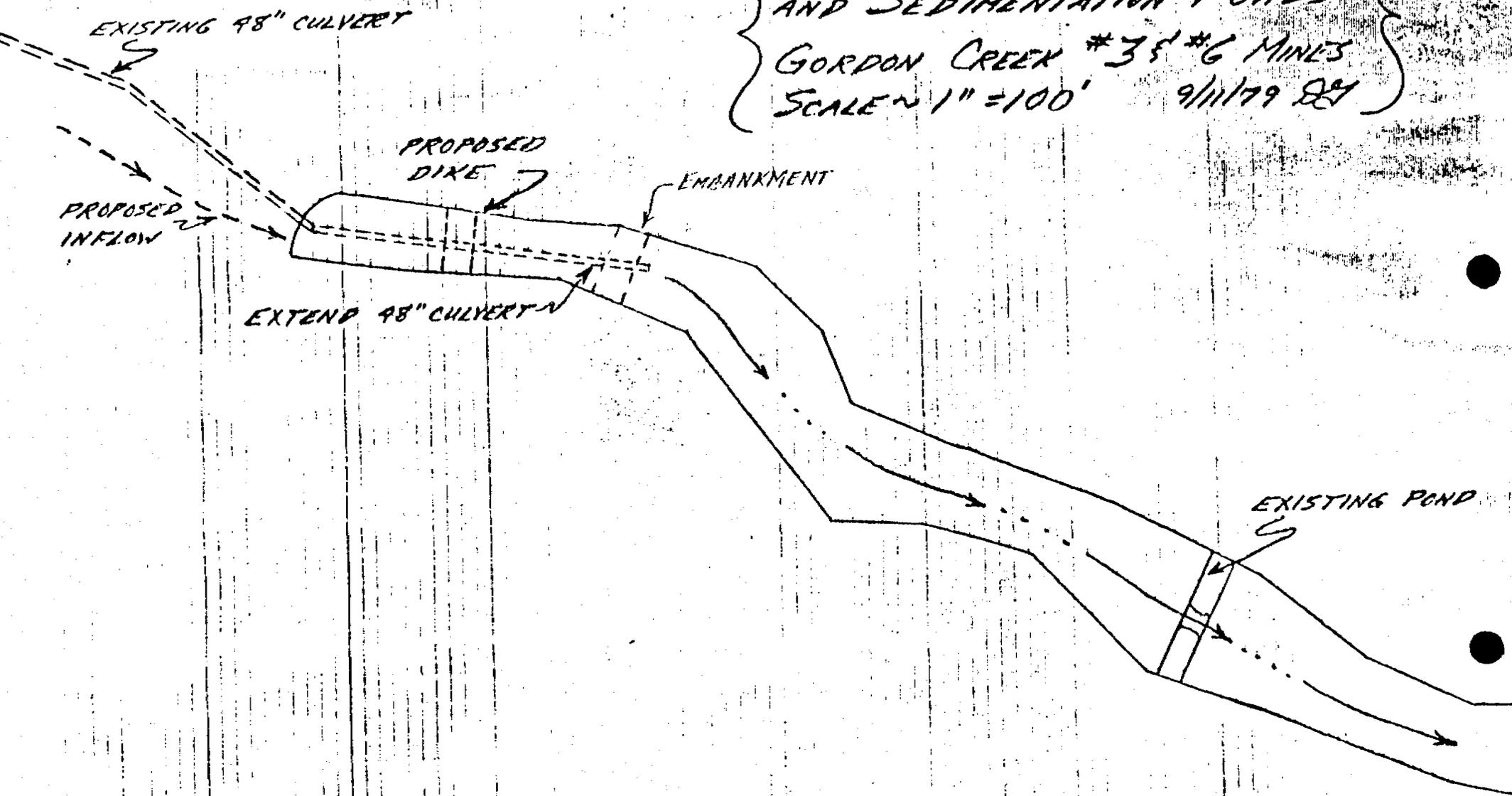
Discharge Structures: Energy dissipators (rip-rap, conveyor belting, or other) will be provided at the outlet of the 48-inch culvert. The ponds will allow water seepage through gravel dikes and should need no outlet protection. Ponds will be constructed with an overflow of one foot below the top of the dike (such overflow shall be lined with rip-rap to prevent washing of the dike).

#### Conclusion:

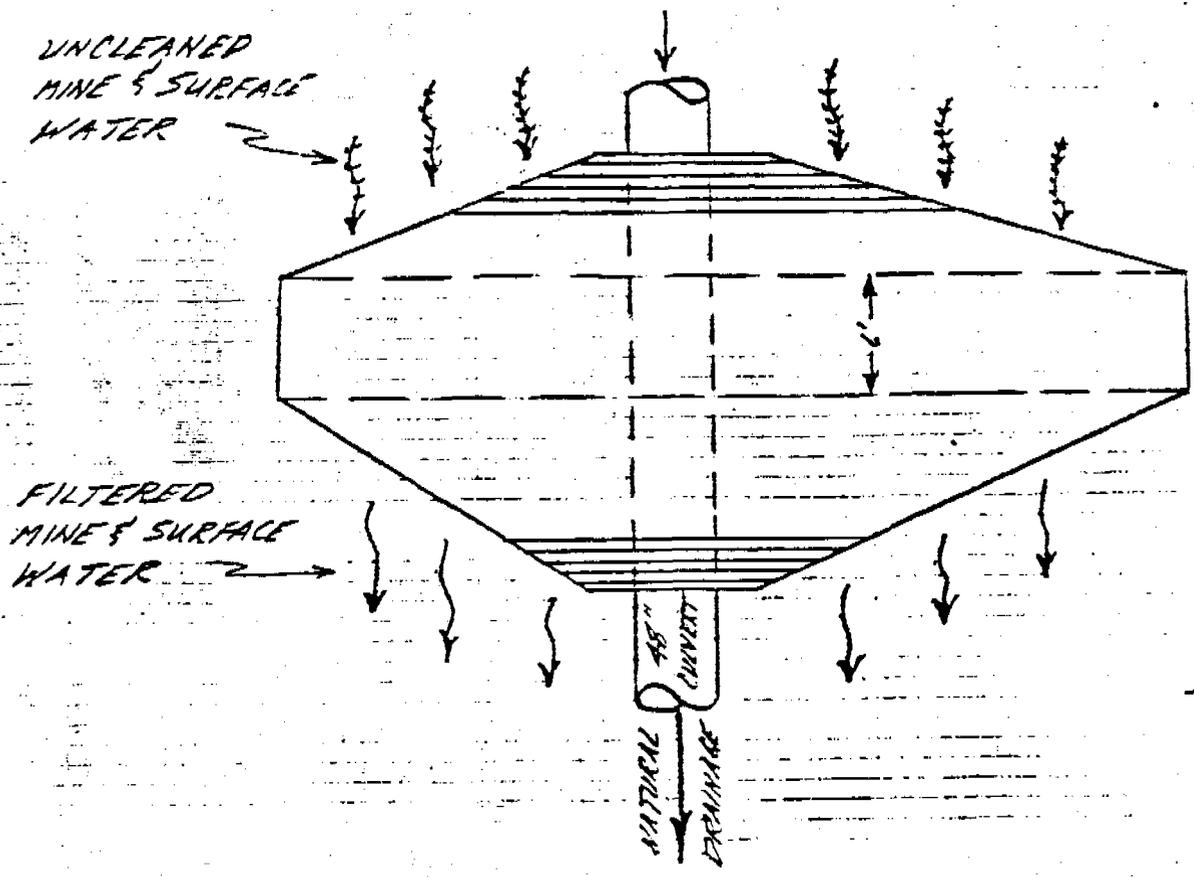
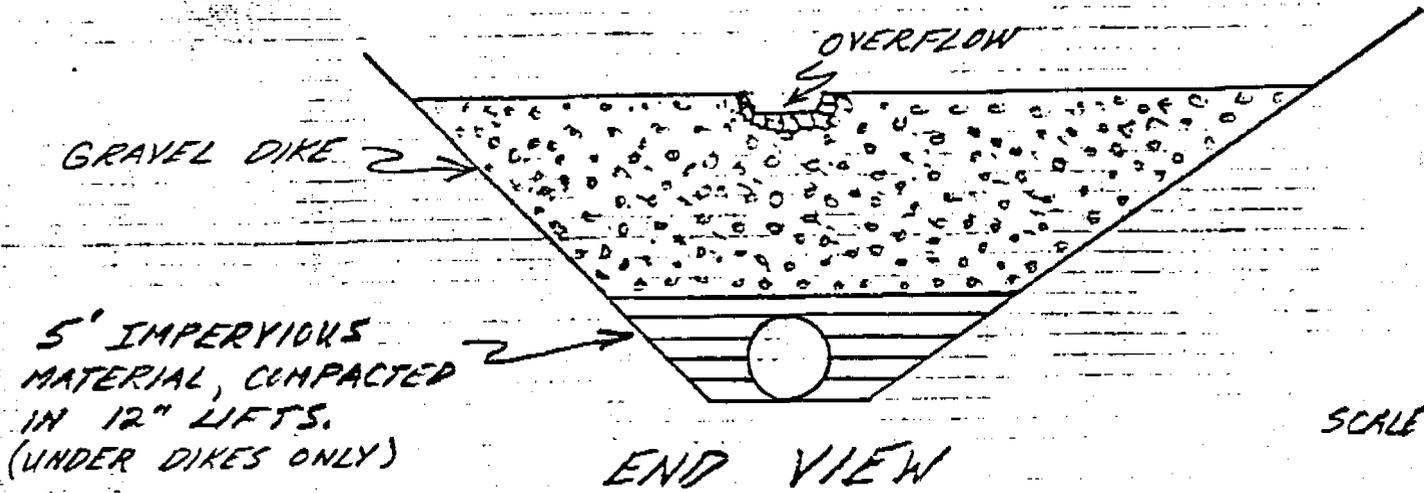
1. The capacity of the ponds will be some 2.01 acre-feet, allowing for a safety factor of 1.40; however, since the ponds are a filtering type, a great portion of any inflow will be cleaned and passed on which will allow a much higher factor of safety.
2. The proposed sedimentation ponds will be adequate to contain and clean the runoff from a 10-year, 24-hour precipitation event in the #3 and #6 Mine area.
3. The existing 48-inch culvert will adequately divert the runoff from the natural drainage above the mine site.

\*Calculations made using the reference "Design of Small Dams" by the Bureau of Reclamation, Appendix A, 'Estimating Rainfall Runoff from Soil and Cover Data'.

PROPOSED FILTERING DIKES  
AND SEDIMENTATION PONDS  
GORDON CREEK #3 & #6 MINES  
SCALE ~ 1" = 100' 9/11/79 JBY



# PROPOSED DIKE - TYPICAL



## TOP VIEW



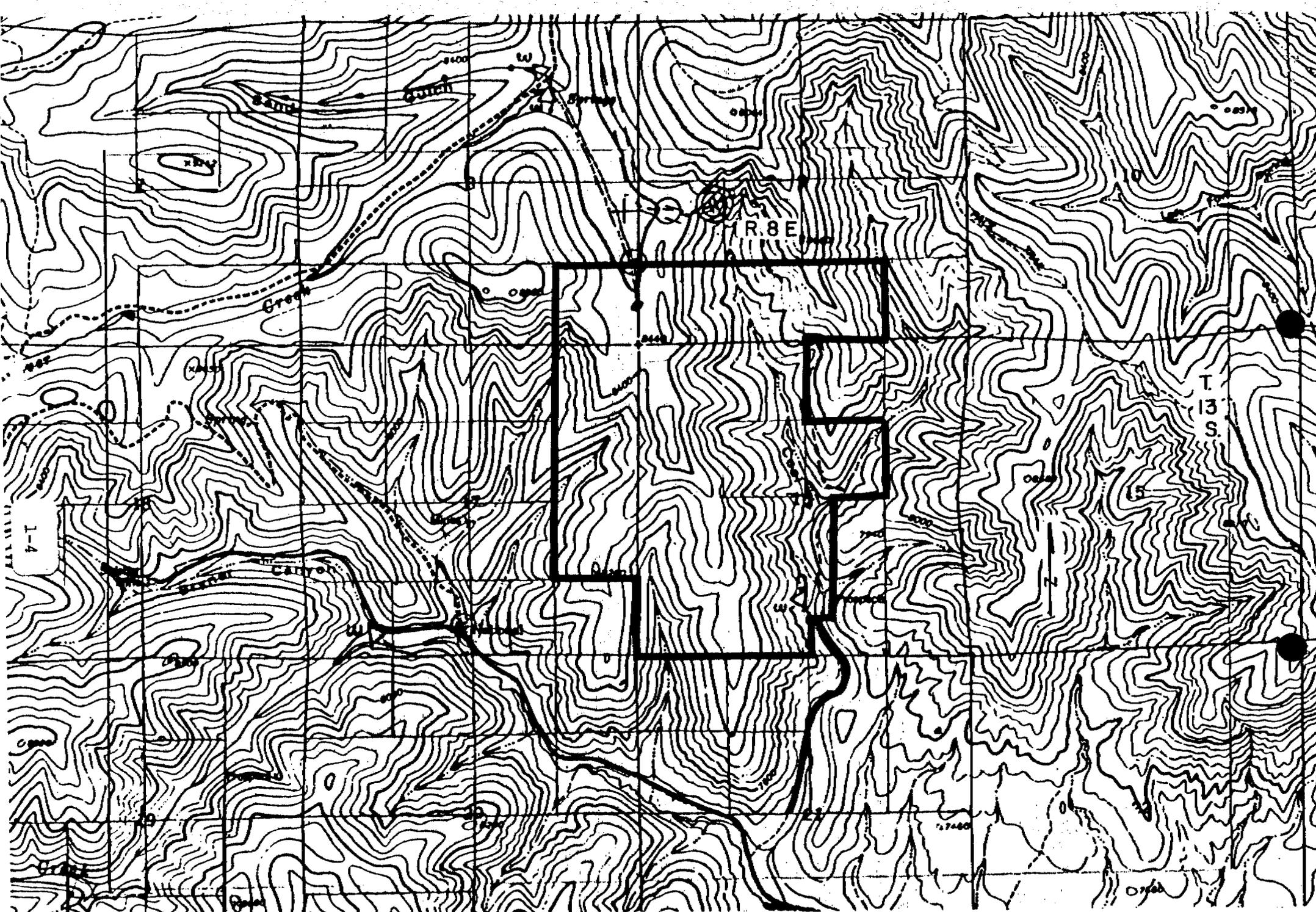
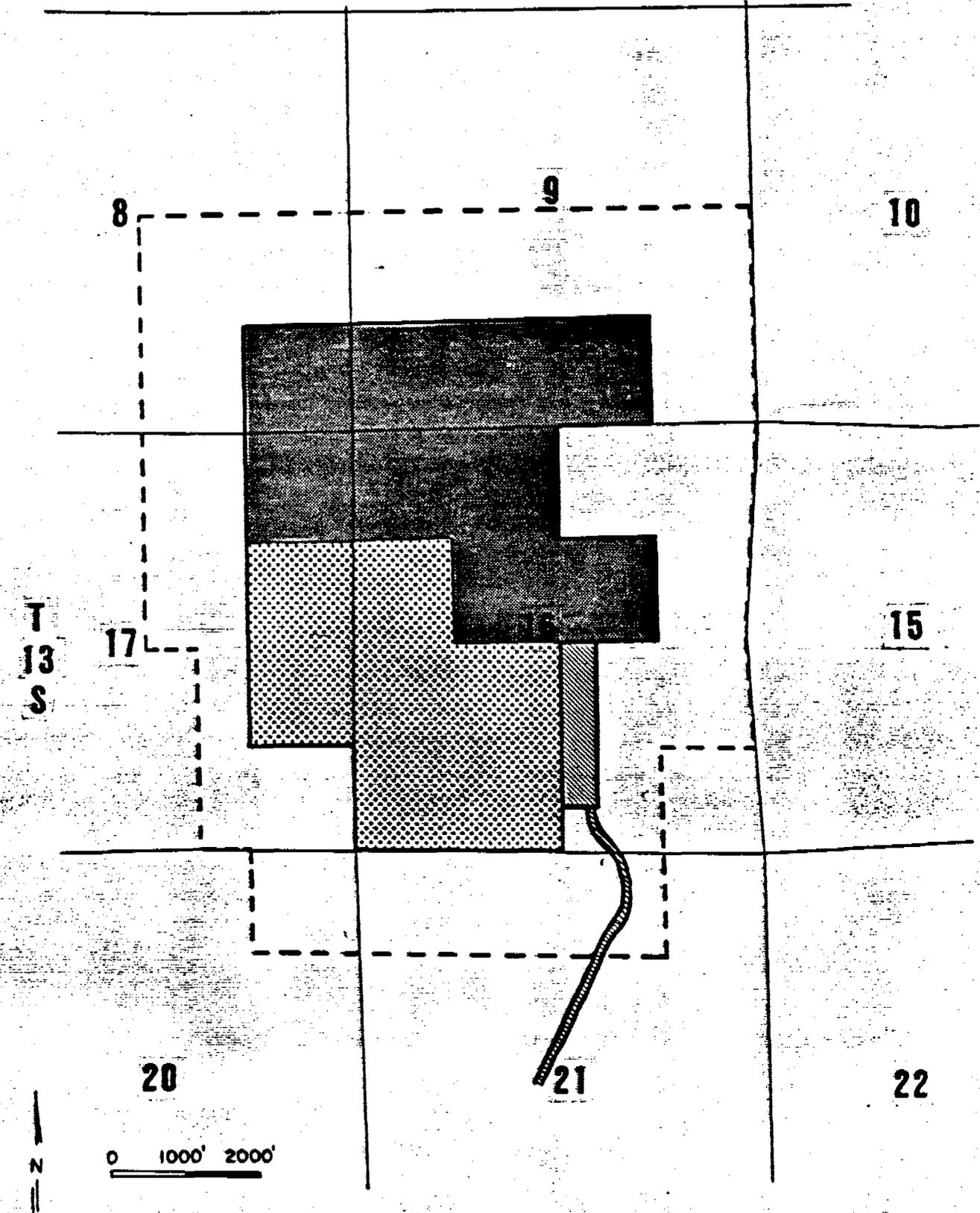


FIGURE I-2 Gordon Creek No 3 & 6 Mines Permit Area.

R 8



■ Coal leased by Beaver Creek Coal Company (Including Rights to Use Surface)  
▨ Coal Owned by Beaver Creek Coal Co.

— Permit Area  
- - - Contiguous to Permit Area  
▨ Surface Use Agreement