



ACT/007/018

Folders #2, 5

# SOLDIER CREEK COAL CO.

Telephone (801) 637-6360

P.O. Box 1  
Price, Utah 84501

May 13, 1985

RECEIVED

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DIVISION OF OIL  
GAS & MINING

Ms. Susan Linner  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Re: Reclamation Bond Reduction - Waste Rock Area  
Soldier Creek Coal Company  
Soldier Canyon Mine  
ACT/007/018

Dear Ms. Linner:

The Office of Surface Mining (O.S.M.) and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (D.O.G.M.) has requested a reclamation bond in the amount of \$1,090,800.00 for final approval of our mining and reclamation plan. Of this total amount, \$522,592.00 is for our existing facilities and \$568,208.00 is intended for a proposed waste rock disposal site. Soldier Creek Coal Company has requested that bonding of the waste rock disposal site not be required at this time. It is believed that the proposed site may not be utilized during the permit term. The following is being submitted as justification for this belief.

The construction of overcasts within the underground mine workings is necessary to isolate air courses and haulageways as required by law. This construction is the only routine procedure which may create underground development waste rock.

Rock is generally excavated during overcast construction to provide adequate area for air movement and clearances for equipment. Nearly all overcasts are planned well in advance of mining operations, thus allowing development of areas specifically for disposal of excavated rock (see enclosed map). The quantities of rock generated are usually small and have never created significant disposal problems within the mine.

Ms. Susan Linner  
May 13, 1985  
Page 2

Providing access to the Gilson Seam is the only major project proposed during the permit term which will generate significant quantities of underground development waste rock. The entire project, including waste rock disposal, will be conducted from the Rock Canyon Seam which overlies the Gilson Seam by 35 feet.

Two rock slopes and two inter-seam vertical shafts are the proposed access. Approximately 108,000 cubic feet of rock will be excavated. After allowing 75% expansion for broken rock, the total waste rock volume will be approximately 189,000 cubic feet. The proposed storage site as shown on the enclosed map will provide well in excess of 522,000 cubic feet of available space.

If unexpected mining conditions are encountered which may result in large quantities of mine development waste, this material can be disposed of within the mine. An area which is ideally suited for a disposal site is shown on the enclosed map. This area can provide over 1,300,000 cubic feet of storage.

Soldier Creek Coal Company believes that disposal of all mine development waste can be adequately handled within the mine. The waste rock disposal site as proposed in our mining and reclamation plan is however a viable alternative to underground disposal. If this site is to be utilized, it is understood that final D.O.G.M. approval, which includes bonding, must first be obtained.

Please contact myself or Tom Paluso if you have any questions or comments concerning this information.

Sincerely,

SOLDIER CREEK COAL COMPANY



Dave Spillman  
Mine Engineer

DS:pp

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Walter C. Swain - Office of Surface Mining