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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 31, 1989

TO: Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Mike DeWeese, Reclamation Hydrologist *YMA*

RE: Mid-Permit Term Review, Deficiency Response, Soldier Creek Coal Company, Soldier Canyon Mine, ACT/007/0~~1~~, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah *018*

SUMMARY:

The operator's response to the Division's mid-permit term review, received June 23, 1989, has been reviewed regarding hydrologic issues. One outstanding comment regarding water monitoring remains before the submittal can be considered technically adequate.

ANALYSIS:

UMC 713.17 Alternative Water Supply Information - MMD

UMC 817.41 Hydrologic Balance: General Requirements - MMD

The operator has identified various sections of the MRP adequately addressing the issues raised in the Division's comment regarding protection of the hydrologic balance. Page 7-7 of the cross reference has been corrected.

UMC 817.47 Hydrologic Balance: Discharge Structures - MMD

UMC 817.49 (c) Hydrologic Balance: Discharge Structures - MMD

The operator has submitted the required design specifications regarding energy dissipators utilized at the sedimentation pond as part of the proposed new facilities amendment. This amendment proposes modifications of the existing sedimentation pond, therefore an as-built drawing of the reconstructed sedimentation pond including details of the energy dissipators will be submitted upon completion of this project.

UMC 817.52 Hydrologic Balance: Surface and Ground Water Monitoring -
MMD

The operator has clarified the discrepancy concerning the number of wells used in the ground water monitoring program. There presently are two wells monitored for static water levels. A minimum of three monitoring sites are necessary to determine the piezometric plane of the aquifer. Therefore the operator must commit to install a third water monitoring well or conduct other monitoring procedures to provide static water level data at an additional site.

UMC 817.46 (e-u) Hydrologic Balance: Sedimentation Ponds - MMD

UMC 817.49 Hydrologic Balance: Permanent and Temporary Impoundments
- MMD

The Division is currently formulating a policy on impoundments which exempts sewage lagoons from the requirements of the aforementioned regulations. Therefore this comment is no longer applicable and the operator is not required to submit as-built plans of the sewage lagoons.

UMC 817.42 through UMC 817.49 - MMD

The operator has submitted an amendment for new surface facilities at the mine site. The surface diversion system and sediment pond are currently being reviewed for technical adequacy as part of the permitting process. Therefore all comments regarding surface structures should be referred to the aforementioned review documents.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Division recommends the mid-permit term review be denied final approval until such time as the operator commits to additional monitoring of ground water levels.