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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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August 30, 1989

TO: Sue Linner, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Randy Harden, Reclamation Engineer

RE: Surface Facilities Expansion, Soldier Creek Coal Company, Soldier Canyon Mine, ACT/007/018-89B, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

SUMMARY:

This memo is in review of the proposed new surface facilities for the Soldier Canyon Mine submitted on August 15, 1989.

ANALYSIS:

UMC 783.24-25 Maps: General Requirements, Cross Sections, Maps, and Plans - JRH

Disturbed area boundaries have been provided on the updated and replaced drawings as requested. This is considered adequate.

UMC 784.18 Relocation or Use of Public Roads - JRH

The operator has indicated that the permits required for construction of the new facilities adjacent to the public road are pending review by Carbon County. The operator is aware of this requirement prior to construction of the new facilities.

UMC 784.19 Underground Development Waste - JRH

The operator has proposed the utilization of spoils and underground development waste produced by the construction of the new surface facilities into those facilities. The proposed plan and the MRP must present plans for both the temporary and permanent disposal of excess spoils and mine development waste within the permit area in accordance with UMC 817.71.

Although much of the waste materials may be utilized in the construction of the new facilities, the operator has located an area within the proposed disturbed area for the temporary storage of excess spoil and mine development waste.

The operator has requested that final designs for the permanent disposal site be deferred until the next permit term because no anticipated need for the construction of the permanent waste disposal facility is deemed necessary until that time.

The Division concurs in part with this request. However, the operator will be required to commit to submittal of a complete plan and design information for the construction, operation and reclamation of a permanent waste rock disposal site. These facilities must be accepted by the Division and incorporated into the mining and reclamation plan prior to approval for permit renewal.

UMC 784.24 Transportation Facilities - JRH

The operator has acknowledged that and Air Quality Approval Order is necessary prior to placing the proposed facilities into operation. However construction of these facilities does not require such approval.

UMC 800 - Bonding and Insurance - JRH

Revised calculations and cost estimates submitted by the operator for the new portal facilities shall be incorporated into the mining and reclamation plan in conjunction with the mid-term review. A sufficient bond amount is considered to be posted by the operator to at least commence construction on the new portal facilities due to the waste disposal facilities which have not been constructed but are included in the current reclamation cost estimate and bond amount. The operator will however, be required to provide a rider to the bond at this time to incorporate the new disturbed areas into the existing bond.

Upon receipt of the rider to the current bond incorporating those additional disturbed areas proposed, the operator may commence construction activities within the new proposed facilities.

A revised reclamation bond cost estimate must be submitted by the operator in conjunction with the mid-term permit review currently in progress by the Division and in conjunction with the detailed designs for the new facilities which are currently being prepared by the operator's design contractor.

UMC 817.13 Casing and Sealing of Exposed Underground Openings: General Requirements - JRH

UMC 817.14 Casing and Sealing of Exposed Underground Openings: Temporary - JRH

UMC 817.15 Casing and Sealing of Exposed Underground Openings: Permanent - JRH

The operator has reference section 5.2 of the existing MRP for general information regarding the casing and sealing of mine openings. With regard to the proposed portal facilities, this considered to be adequate. Refer to comments made in the mid-term review addressing mine openings in general.

UMC 817.101 Backfilling and Grading: General Requirements - JRH

Mass balance information has been provided in the proposal subject to revisions made in conjunction with the final designs of the new facilities. The operator has committed to provide additional information regarding backfilling and grading and mass balance upon the completion of these plans.

Sufficient general information in this section is considered adequate to allow the operator to commence with construction activity. The operator will be required to revise backfilling and grading information in conjunction with the mid-term permit review.

SUMMARY:

The operator must revise the disturbed area boundary and incorporate that area into the bond prior to initiation of construction of the new proposed facilities. This rider must be provided by the operator prior to any construction activity in the area.

Other deficiencies and defects found in the plan are not necessarily subject to the initiation of the new facilities. These deficiencies other deficiencies and requirements for the mid-term permit review and will be incorporated into the mid-term permit review by the Division. These deficiencies will be subject to the time limitations as outlined in the mid-term permit review and should occur within a reasonably short time.

BT14/17-19

cc: B. TEAM