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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 30, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DDH*

FROM: James D. Smith, Reclamation Specialist *JDS*

RE: Incidental Boundary Change (IBC), Andalex Resources, Centennial Project, ACT/007/019, File 2, Carbon County, Utah.

## SUMMARY

Federal Lease U-66060 has been expanded by addition of a 160 acre tract identified as Tract 2, located in Sections 31 and 32, T. 12 S., R. 11 E. Andalex Resources has requested an Incidental Boundary Change (IBC) to include the additional tract in the permit area. Deficiencies in initial information submitted for the IBC were identified in a letter to File dated February 14, 1997. Information submitted on June 23, 1997 is adequate to satisfy those deficiencies.

The modified coal lease that included the lease to the additional 160 acres was issued by BLM in October 1994. This addition brings the total acreage in Lease U-66060 to 1094 (1093.32) acres. The IBC submittal contains updated versions of Plates 1, 2, 3, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 34 showing the Tract 2 addition.

## TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

### *ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION*

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR Sec. 783., et. al.

### **PERMIT AREA**

Regulatory Requirements: 30 CFR Sec. 783.12; R645-301-521.

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**Analysis:**

Federal Lease U-66060 has been enlarged by 160 acres and Andalex Resources has requested an Incidental Boundary Change (IBC) to include the additional 160 acres in the permit area. The additional lease tract is described on page 21-A and is shown on maps in the IBC submittal. The modified coal lease that included the additional 160 acres was issued by BLM in October 1994. The lease addition brings the total acreage in Lease U-66060 to 1,094 (1093.32) acres.

**Findings:**

Description of lands subject to surface coal mining operations is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

**MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

**Analysis:**

**Affected Area Boundary Maps**

The IBC submittal contains updated versions of Plates 1, 2, 3, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 34 that include Tract 2 of lease U-66060 in the permit area. Tract 2 (160 acres) is in Sections 31 and 32, T. 12 S., R. 11 E.

**Coal Resource and Geologic Information Maps**

The IBC submittal contains updated versions of Plates 26, 27, 28, and 29 that include the area of the Tract 2 lease addition. These maps show the isopach thickness of the lower Sunnyside, Centennial, Gilson, and Aberdeen coal seams, coal crop lines, overburden thickness, and strike and dip. Only the Aberdeen seam is shown as having minable reserves within Tract 2, but this is based on information from drill-holes to the south. No seam thicknesses have been projected for the lower Sunnyside, Centennial, and Gilson seams in the Tract 2 area or adjacent areas on Plates 26, 27, and 28. Information, including that on Plates 26, 27, and 28, does not indicate minable reserves would be anticipated in the Sunnyside, Centennial, and Gilson seams in Tract 2 and adjacent areas.

### **Mine Workings Maps**

The IBC submittal contains an updated Plate 29 that shows where the Aberdeen seam has been mined up through 1994 and where mining is planned, which includes mining in the Tract 2 lease addition. Plates 26, 27, and 28 show present extent of mined areas and mining projections for the lower Sunnyside, Centennial, and Gilson seams respectively. Based on current knowledge of coal thickness and minability in these three seams there is no anticipation that they will be mined within the Tract 2 addition.

### **Permit Area Boundary Maps**

The IBC submittal contains updated versions of Plates 1, 2, 3, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 34 that show the permit boundary to include Tract 2 of lease U-66060. Tract 2 (160 acres) is in Sections 31 and 32, T. 12 S., R. 11 E.

### **Surface And Subsurface Ownership Maps**

Surface Ownership Map (Plate 2) and Mineral Ownership Map (Plate 3) have been updated to show the area included in the IBC submittal.

### **Findings:**

Resource information provided on maps, plans, and cross sections is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

### ***OPERATION PLAN***

### **MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

### **Analysis:**

Same as for Resources Section.

### **Findings:**

Same as for Resources Section.

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***RECLAMATION PLAN***

**MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RECLAMATION OPERATIONS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-323, -301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731.

**Analysis:**

Same as for Resources Section.

**Findings:**

Same as for Resources Section.

***CUMULATIVE HYDROLOGIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT***

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14, UCA R645-301-729

**Analysis:**

A Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment (CHIA) was prepared December 4, 1990 and re-evaluated on April 20, 1993 for the addition of lease UTU-66066 (the "AEP" lease) to the permit. The proposed Tract 2 addition is within the Cumulative Impact Area (CIA) of that original 1990 CHIA. The probable cumulative impacts of all anticipated coal mining and reclamation operations on the hydrologic balance in the cumulative impact area has been assessed and it has been determined that the proposed operation has been designed to prevent material damage to the hydrologic balance outside the proposed permit area.

**Finding:**

The Division has determined that the proposed operation has been designed to prevent material damage to the hydrologic balance outside the proposed permit area.