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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 11, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DH*

FROM: Wayne Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist *w HW*

RE: 160 acre lease modification, Andalex Resources, Inc. Centennial Project
ACT/007/019-97C, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

Andalex Resources has requested permission to modify their existing federal lease U-66060 to include 160 acres. The BLM has requested that Andalex modify the lease because the only access to the coal resources in the 160 acres track is through their facilities. The lease modification does not involve any additional surface disturbance or facilities. The Permittee will expand the permit boundary to include the additional areas that could subside.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

PERMIT AREA

Analysis:

The Permittee showed the location of the incidental boundary change on the Tower Division Incidental Boundary Change plate. The plate shows the location of the federal lease U-66060 (M). They show surface ownership on Plate 2 and mineral ownership on Plate 3. Other maps submitted by the Permittee also show the location of the existing and proposed lease boundaries.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the addition of the 160-acre.

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.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Analysis:

Coal Resource and Geologic Information Maps

Plate 29 shows the location of the coal isopachs associated with the Aberden Mine. Plate 21 and Plate 22 show surface geology and references to subsurface geology.

Mine Workings Maps

Plate 29 shows the current and projected mine workings.

Surface and Subsurface Ownership Maps

Plates 2 and 3 show the surface and subsurface ownership.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the addition of the 160-acre.

OPERATION PLAN

MINING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.2, 784.11; R645-301-231, -301-526, -301-528.

Analysis:

General

R645-301-521 requires that the Permittee submit plans that show the size, sequence and timing of for the areas that they anticipate to mine. Plate 29 shows the anticipated mining plan from 1995 to 1999. The plate shows the Permittee will extend the mine working 1,600 feet into the new lease in 1997.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the addition of the 160-acre.

COAL RECOVERY

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.59; R645-301-522.

Analysis:

In a letter dated January 13, 1997 to the Division from Andalex, they state that "Andalex has no specific knowledge that recoverable coal resources exist on this lease modification. However, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) allowed Andalex to modify the lease so that if recoverable coal is found through our normal mining sequence in this area the coal would not be bypassed. Andalex has the only access to this coal."

Plate 29 show the projected mining workings into the new lease. It appears from this plate that the Permittee has developed detailed plans to mine the new lease addition. The Division realizes that actual mining conditions could be different from those assumed and that the Permittee may have to modify the mine plan. Based on the current plan the Division has determined that the Permittee can maximize coal recovery.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the addition of the 160-acre.

SUBSIDENCE CONTROL PLAN

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.20, 817.121, 817.122; R645-301-521, -301-525, -301-724.

Analysis:

Subsidence control plan.

The Permittee will establish one subsidence monitoring station in the 160-acre IBC. They show the subsidence buffer zone on Plate 25. All projected subsidence will occur within the permit area and the subsidence buffer zones.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate in regard to the proposed permit change for the addition of the 160-acre.

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