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

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February 13, 1997

TO: File  
THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DH*  
FROM: Wayne Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist *WFW*  
RE: 160 acre lease modification, Andalex Resources, Inc. Centennial Project  
ACT/007/019-97B, 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 the their facilities. The lease modification does not involve any additional surface disturbance or facilities. The permit boundary will be expanded to include the additional areas that could be subsided.

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION**

**PERMIT AREA**

**Analysis:**

The location of the incidental boundary change is shown on the Tower Division Incidental Boundary Change plate. The plate shows the location of the federal lease U-66060 (M). Surface ownership is shown on Plate 2 and mineral ownership is depicted on Plate 3. Other maps submitted by the Permittee also show the location of the existing and proposed lease boundaries. None of the maps or plates submitted by the Permittee were certified. While there is no regulation that requires that a permit area map be certified there are requirements that certain maps must show the permit boundaries and be certified. The issue of certification will be addressed in the appropriate sections.

**Findings:**

The Permittee has met the minimum requirements for showing the location of the permit boundaries.

## TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

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### **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:**

##### **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. The geologic maps were not certified. R645-301-512.150 requires that the geologic cross sections and maps be certified.

##### **Mine Workings Maps**

Plate 29 shows the current and projected mine workings. R645-301-521.111 requires that maps that show the location of active mines within and adjacent to the permit area be certified. The Incidental Boundary Change map shows the location of underground workings and also has not been certified. The Permittee must provide the Division with a certified mine map as required by R645-301-521.111.

##### **Surface and Subsurface Ownership Maps**

Plates 2 and 3 show the surface and subsurface ownership.

#### **Findings:**

The Permittee has failed to provide the Division with certified mine maps as required by R645-301-521.111.

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# **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 which are anticipated to be mined. Plate 29 shows the anticipated mining plan from 1995 to 1999. The plate shows the mine working will be extended 1,600 feet into the new lease in 1997. In the cover letter the Permittee states that they need to immediately advance the cross cuts 100 feet into the new lease area. The information in the cover letter and Plate 29 are not consistent and the Permittee needs to clarify the mining plan.

### **Findings:**

The Permittee did not meet the requirements of R645-301-521 because they failed to provide the Division with consistent information about the future mining operations.

## **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 will be able to maximize coal recovery.

### **Findings:**

## TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

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The Permittee has met the minimum regulatory requirements.

### **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 needs to update the survey of renewable resource in the areas to be mined. Much of the work has already been done so the Permittee only needs to include the surface area of the new lease. See R645-301-525.100.

The Permittee did not describe the anticipated effects of planned subsidence. The Division needs an update maps that show the area of maximum possible surface subsidence. See R645-301-525.150.

#### **Findings:**

The Permittee has failed to meet the requirements of R645-301-525.100 and R645-301-525.150. The Permittee needs to update the subsidence survey and the maps that show the area of projected maximum possible surface subsidence.