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

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ACT/007/019  
Folder # 2

April 20, 1999

To: File

Thru: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor, Permitting

From: Stephen J. Demczak, Reclamation Specialist

RE: Citizen Complaint, Andalex Resources, Centennial Mine, ACT/007/019, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining had received a citizen complaint by phone on April 7, 1999 by Mike Leschin. He stated that the creek below the Andalex mine site was black in color and it was not this way before. Pete Hess went to investigate on the morning of April 7th with the permittee's representative, Mike Glasson, and the results were that there was no blackened creek or material to be found. He noticed where the water had wetted the Mancos shale it turned the shale dark gray. A written and verbal report by Mr. Hess was made to his supervisor Joe Helfrich.

I received a phone call the afternoon of April 7, 1999 by Mr. Leschin and conveyed the information of Mr. Hess' inspection. Stating that the blackened creek or material could not be found. Mr. Leschin gave me the location of the blackened areas of the creek. I asked and he accepted to go on an inspection on Friday the 9th of April at 8:00 a.m. This was the time that was the most convenient for Mr. Leschin.

April 7, 1999 inspection revealed the following information, it must be noted that this inspection was with Mike Glasson (Environmental Engineer for Andalex), Mr. Leschin (citizen), and Fred Sanchez (Safety Director for Andalex). The inspection was not attended by all of the above for the entire inspection.

- a) All inlets to the undisturbed culvert was inspected with no signs of environmental impact from mining. The inlets were clean and clear.
- b) The outlet of the undisturbed culvert was inspected and was also clean and clear.
- c) The creek immediately below the mine was dry and no sign of black material was noticed.
- d) An AML Project, Dead Man Project, was inspected. One to two miles into the project it was noticed that coal fines were everywhere. The coal fines were

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located in the drainages, on the road, hillsides, slopes, etc. This area is below the mine and the drainage goes directly into the creek where the citizen complaint was made. See map next page.

- e) Mr. Leschin drove Mike Glasson and I to a spot approximately three to five miles down stream from the mine site. The area was dark gray and not normal color to the surroundings. The dark material was all wet, fine grain, and gray in color but not black. Scraping the surface material revealed fine grain black material resembling clay in texture. This black material gave off the same smell as standing pond water.
- f) Mike Leschin had to leave for work and Mr. Glasson and I went to get grab sample bags at the mine. We drove back to the creek and partially filled two bags of material to get an analysis.
- g) Driving back to the office Mike Glasson and I noticed that the material used on road for melting of snow and traction in winter looked close to the top gray material at the creek. A sample of the road material was also taken for comparison.
- h) Samples were taken to Horizon Labs.
- j) All of the above information was conveyed to Joe Helfrich verbally and was e-mailed on Friday, April 9, 1999.
- j) Sample of the material located at the creek crossing is called Kenilworth Road sample. See the following pages for analysis information.
- k) Sample of the road material from the county road is called Road Treatment. See the following pages for analysis information.

Summary:

The material was dark gray on top and black underneath. The composition of the material has most likely come from the following areas: some coal fines, which could have been washed down from the Dead Man area (Abandoned Mine Land Project), road material from county road, and also decayed vegetation along the wash. All these areas have access and are nearby for material to enter the wash in question.

No coal fines of any significance were noticed below the Centennial mine. Therefore, it would be unlikely that coal fines from Centennial mine of any significant quantities have been washed down to the Kenilworth Road (wash) area.

It is recommended that no violation be issued to Andalex Resources.

sd  
enclosures

EE: Mark Mesch, AML, SLC  
Mary Ann Wright, DOGM, SLC