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STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

cc Blue Blaze mine site  
Pan Dec 16 1990  
#2  
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Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director  
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**MEMO**

**TO:** Mary Ann Wright, Administrator, AMRP

**FROM:** Mark Mesch, Reclamation Specialist *MRM*

**DATE:** July 27, 1990

**RE: On site meeting to discuss reclamation with permit applicants at Consumers Mine - AMR/007/025**

On July 6, 1990 at 10:30 a.m. Mary Ann Wright and I met with Roger Skaggs (Vice President, Blue Blaze Coal), Margaret Skaggs, Dennis Lee, and Dennis Bailey on site at the Consumers Mine. The Skaggs are attempting to obtain a mining permit for the Consumers site with the Division's Coal Regulatory Program under the name of Blue Blaze # 1. There are however eligible Abandoned Mine Land sites on the property, and initial reclamation design work has begun for the site. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the role of Title IV and its reclamation plans with the potential permittee and to stress that reclamation performed by the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program would not necessarily preclude future mining at this site. The following items were specifically discussed:

1) **What clearly hazardous situations currently exist on the site, i.e., open portals, collapsing structures, etc?** Early investigation identified 15 possible portals on this site. Blue Blaze # 1 plans to utilize two of these, HO-2 and HO-4, in their mining plan. These portals are currently open, however Mr. Skaggs stated that for safety reasons they could fence them closed pending the disposition of their permit. All other portals on the site have sloughed closed but the methods used in sealing them is still under investigation. It is likely that probes will have to be performed on many of these portals if closure information cannot be verified. The site contains numerous structures, both mining related and domestic. The current AMRP plan addresses two hazardous structures, S6, a concrete loadout tippie, and S3, a stone magazine. Both structures are unstable, in disrepair and present safety hazards. As these structures are not significant in the current mining plan, the Skaggs voiced support for AMRP's plan to demolish these structures.

**2) What is the level of reclamation that could be performed at the Consumers Site?** Currently planned reclamation at this site will consist of portal probes/closures and demolition of the above mentioned structures. Additional work such as recontouring, refuse disposal, stream channel work, and revegetation will be postponed pending the disposition of the Skaggs mining permit application. As there is a relatively small amount of work slated for this site, this project could be added into the Book Cliffs project to facilitate reclamation and reduce project costs. At a minimum, savings would be realized in mobilization and demobilization costs.

**3) What areas at the Consumers site are critical to the permittee for their Mining Reclamation Plan and what are their plans for areas of pre 1977 disturbance?** The permittee identified three areas crucial to their mining plan: 1) the drainage to the northeast of the main site which is slated for mine access, a pad, and topsoil material, 2) the drainage that bisects the main area for use as sediment ponds and water monitoring points, and 3) HO-2 and HO-4, currently open portals used to access the coal seam. These areas are also eligible AML sites, with no current reclamation responsibility. Mining activity at these areas on behalf of the permittee may result in them bearing part of the future reclamation responsibility for these specific sites.

## **SUMMARY**

This meeting was very effective in establishing lines of communication between the permittee and the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program. Concern was expressed by numerous individuals in the Carbon County area when the AMRP advertized a notice for reclamation this summer. Through our on site meeting this concern has been reduced and replaced with an attitude of cooperation for the reclamation issues at the Consumers site.