



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 9, 1992

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Henry Sauer, Senior Reclamation Soils Specialist 

RE: Technical Deficiencies, Blue Blaze Coal Company, Blue Blaze Mine, PRO/007/020, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

R645-301-200 SOILS (HS)

232. Topsoil and Subsoil Removal The applicant's response, dated December 6, 1991, requesting an exception to the requirements of R645-301-232 is not adequate.

The applicant has not adequately demonstrated that the soils southeast of pits #4, #5, & #6 and the fan portal (Senchert and Curecanti Families) meet the criteria for granting an exception to the requirements of R645-301-232 (i.e., R645-301-700 through 232-720). In addition, accurate estimation of the salvageable volume of topsoil is preliminary because of the highly variable horizonation within the described soil map units. The true volume of suitable soil material will only be known after removal operations are completed. Therefore, all available topsoil, which meet the Divisions' suitability criterium, must be salvaged and stockpiled.

242 Topsoil Redistribution The applicant commits to constructing contour furrows on the regraded topsoil at the time of final reclamation. While this is a common practice, the Division recommends maximizing surface roughness on regraded soils by pitting and gouging.

Page 2
Memo/Blue Blaze TD
PRO/007/020
April 9, 1992

R645-301-500 ENGINEERING (HS)

R645-301-536 Coal Mine Waste Once again the applicant refers to the removal and "proper disposal" of coal waste, soils/spoils contaminated with oil and grease and/or contaminated material (pages 3-21,8-21, etc.) The applicant does not, however, specify disposal techniques or disposal location for this material. Material from previous mine activities is located throughout the proposed mine site. The volume and acid- and/or toxic-forming potential of this material and its disposal during mining activities is questionable. In particular, the waste material which will be removed from the site of the topsoil stockpiles prior to topsoil placement does not have on site disposal plans. Therefore, the applicant must remove all reference within the PAP which call for the removal of coal mine waste material from the permit area and submit specific plans for the "proper disposal" of waste encountered during the redevelopment of the site.

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