



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

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To: File

Thru: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor, Compliance *JH*

From: Wm J. Malencik, Reclamation Specialist *WJM*

RE: Coal Waste Disposal, Horizon Coal Mine, Horizon Mine, ACT/007/020-98F, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY

Horizon Mine ACT/007/020

Horizon Mining, LLC has filed application with the Division to transport and store coal waste at the Sunnyside Cogeneration Permitted Coal Waste/Refuse Pile until such time that (1) underground conditions are conducive to underground storage as specified and approved in the MRP, or (2) until other arrangements are made by Horizon..

The Utah Coal Rules provide that in addition to other matters, "coal mine waste materials from activities located outside the permit area may be disposed of in the permit area only if approved by the Division." (R645-301-536.510)

Horizon approved coal waste storage as covered in the TA and MRP provides:

- (1) Temporary storage NTE 90 days on a designated area on the mine pad, and
- (2) Permanent storage inside the mine in gob areas.

Sunnyside Refuse & Slurry ACT/007/035

The Sunnyside Cogeneration Associates approved coal waste storage as covered in the TA and MRP includes storing coal waste from their operations and also from other sources. Reference MRP and page 911, paragraph 5. The approval also includes surface mining of the refuse pile. OSM has granted Cogen an AML fee variance on their surface mining operation. This is documented and Cogen, while not required to pay AML fees, they are required to keep a record of the quantity of processed coal. The design constraints on the Cogen spoil pile is documented in the MRP and cannot be exceeded without Division approval.



Coal processing spoil from surface mining and tipple are approved to be transported and stored in Cogen's spoil pile. The power plant adjacent to the surface mine is designed to burn carbonaceous material 5000+ BTU.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

OPERATION PLAN/RECLAMATION PLAN

SPOIL AND SOLID WASTE

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-536.500

COAL MINE WASTE

Analysis:

The Division has heretofore prepared a technical analysis for both the Horizon Mine on coal waste and Sunnyside Cogeneration on coal waste, refuse pile, and spoil pile. These findings are supplemented in the MRP and address combustion, placement, acid and toxic, prudent engineering and design, safety factors, foundation investigations, stability, and public hazards.

Sunnyside Cogeneration refuse pile operations as currently approved provide for storage of coal waste and mining of carbonaceous material under a DOGM surface mining permit. The reject material from the tipple is placed in an approved spoil pile. The outstanding technical analysis, pages 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, and 48 provides the technical rationale for approving both the operational and reclamation aspects of both the refuse and spoil piles on each permitted mine as summarized herein.

Horizon's TA pages 64, 65, and the MRP provides:

- (1) That coal mine waste will be disposed of permanently in the underground Horizon gob portion of the mine.
- (2) That coal mine waste may be temporarily stored on the surface adjacent to #1 mine portal for a maximum of 90 days.
- (3) Horizon is committed to sample the temporary storage pile at a rate of one sample for every 5000 cubic yards. A sample was taken by the permittee and has been documented in prior inspection reports.
- (4) The application and TA's of record adequately addresses the requirements of paragraph R645-301-536.500, sub-paragraph R645-301-536.510, and

- 536.500. "Disposal of Coal Mine Waste in Special Areas."
536.510. "Coal mine waste materials from activities located outside a permit area may be disposed of in the permit area only if approved by the Division. Approval will be based upon a showing that such disposal will be in accordance with R645-301-512.230, R645-301-515.200, R645-301-528.320, R645-301-536 through R645-301-536.200, R645-301-536.500, R645-301-542.730, and R645-301-746.100."

Findings:

The existing technical analysis for both Cogen and Horizon mines adequately addresses operations/coal mine waste paragraph R645-301-536 applicable sub-paragraphs; R645-301-535 of the TA concerning spoils. Further, R645-301-553.250 of the TA addresses the reclamation requirement for both. Furthermore, the MRP provides additional details as related to environmental safeguards.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend the amendment be approved with the following stipulations.

- (1) Horizon notify the DOGM inspector before each proposed coal waste shipment.
- (2) Horizon provide weight of the material being transported to SCA for each shipment.
- (3) Horizon maintain sampling results as mentioned in page 2 above as part of the mine records.
- (4) SCA keep a running account of coal waste received from other mines that is approved by the Division to be stored at the Cogen surface mine. The information required is the date each coal waste shipment is received and accepted together with the weigh slips.
- (5) Such records are required and may be reviewed when inspections are conducted by the Division at each of the mines.

This amendment is propitious and conducive to both Horizon and Cogen because it utilized coal waste as a carbonaceous fuel. Also, it has economic and environmental benefits from both operational and reclamation points of view for both mines.