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

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January 21, 1998

Denise Dragoo, Resident Agent
VanCott, Bagley, Cornwall, & McCarthy
50 South Main Street, Suite 1600
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Re: Extension of Culvert UC-3 and Adjacent Disturbed Area Boundary, Horizon Coal Company, Horizon Mine, ACT/007/020-97D-1, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ms. Dragoo:

The Division staff has completed their review of the referenced amendment. Please address the following regulatory requirements by February 3, 1998.

R645-300-142 and 143, R645-301-120, R645-301-500 and R645-301-600, The unapproved reclamation activities (N97-45-1-1) altered the approved Mine Reclamation Plan by changing calculated final reclamation fills thereby invalidating portions of the approved reclamation plan. Prior to approval of the UC-3 culvert extension, the amended MRP needs to describe in detail how reclamation will be achieved to reestablish both drainage areas in Jewkes Creek and Portal Canyon. The applicant needs to provide a narrative which clearly describes the precise removal and ultimate placement of construction fills during reclamation, also plates showing revised reclamation contours and cross sections.

R645-301-120, The applicant needs to update the operational topography and surface facilities' maps to reflect the projected impact of the UC-3 culvert installation and provide plates showing the revised operational contours and cross sections.

R645-301-231.400, The applicant needs to provide a topsoil stockpiling plan. It is not possible to determine how much topsoil and/or substitute topsoil will be displaced by the construction of the culvert extension and where that material will be stockpiled.

R645-301-234, Rather than a temporary stockpile (Area E), locate an area (e.g., below the sediment pond) for permanent topsoil storage that will provide the least amount of disturbance and damage to soil. Provide erosion control measures to protect against soil loss and sediment loading to the adjacent Jewkes Creek.

R645-301-330. The permit commits to disturb the minimum area required for operations, yet 100' of a culvert in addition that which is currently approved is proposed. Only that area necessary for the current mine operations can be culverted. The applicant needs to provide an updated operations map and text to justify the need for the additional culvert.

R645-301-526.116. The permit is unclear as to the exact boundaries of the Carbon County Beaver Creek road right-of-way. This right-of-way must be depicted on a map (Operations map is preferred) where the mine disturbed area and road right-of-way are located. Documentation must be provided demonstrating that the County has authorized specific proposed mining and/or reclamation operations within the right-of-way should that be the case.

R645-301-521.150, The maps accompanying the submittal need to be revised to show the proposed topography of the culvert extension area.

R645-301-521.100, The applicant needs to provide a volume analysis for the proposed culvert extension area. It is not possible to determine how much fill material will be used to construct the extension or where that material will come from.

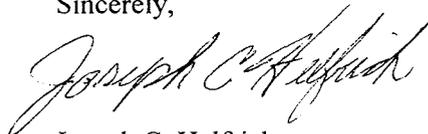
R645-301-521.162, The submittal mentions some "100 feet x 50 feet [sic] portion of an adjacent hillside" that will be "disturbed" during the construction of the culvert extension. There is no hint, however, of where that hillside is or exactly what will be done to it.

R645-301-541.400, The applicant needs to provide a reclamation plan for the culvert extension area. The maps have not been revised to show the proposed final topography and there are no estimates of how much fill material will be required to construct that topography or where that material will come from.

R645-301-542.800, The applicant needs to provide an estimate of the cost of reclaiming the culvert extension area. There is some mention of the cost of removing the culvert itself, but there are no estimates of the costs associated with the necessary reclamation earthwork.

If you have any questions please call.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Helfrich
Permit Supervisor

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cc: Vicky Bailey, EarthFax
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