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# TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

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March 14, 2011

TO: Internal File

THRU: Kevin Lundmark, Hydrologist and Team Lead *KL*

FROM: James Owen, Engineer *JO*

RE: Protection & Enhancement Plan & Raptor Survey, Hidden Splendor Resource, Horizon Mine, C/007/0020, Task #3741

## SUMMARY:

On February 22, 2011 the Utah Division of Oil Gas & Mining received an application to amend the MRP of Hidden Splendor Resource's Horizon Mine. The amendment was based on a commitment within the applicant's MRP that a Protection and Enhancement (P&E) Plan would be developed in conjunction with the Division and DWR prior to retreat mining under Beaver Creek.

Division staff met with representatives of the mine as well as DWR on January 12, 2011 and discussed MRP modifications and commitments that would be sufficient to address the P&E plan requirements. The application was submitted as a result of that meeting.

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**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**

**OPERATION PLAN**

**SUBSIDENCE CONTROL PLAN**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.20, 817.121, 817.122; R645-301-521, -301-525, -301-724.

**Analysis:**

The following modifications were made to Section 3.4.8.5 of the MRP (pages 3-29-3-30):

- The application included a commitment to expand the subsidence monitoring network by establishing new or additional monitoring stations above the panels that will be mined beneath Beaver Creek and above panels where pillaring has occurred or is projected to occur.
- The application included a commitment to supply all of the information related to subsidence monitoring to the Division on a yearly basis during the annual reporting period. This information shall include but is not limited to: Updated yearly raw subsidence data (Easting, Northing, Elevations) of each subsidence monitoring monument/station (whether it is considered active or inactive by HSR); Baseline subsidence data for each subsidence monitoring monument/station; and Photographs and coordinates (Easting, Northing) of any cracks, fractures, slumps, or other subsidence related abnormalities that are encountered during subsidence surveys.
- Within section 3.4.8.5, on page 3-29 of the MRP in the paragraph that begins “Multiple readings...”, Hidden Splendor Resources modified this paragraph to include a commitment to conduct subsidence monitoring annually throughout the process of mining operations and for two years after cessation of mining operations.
- Within section 3.4.8.5, on page 3-29 of the MRP in the paragraph that begins “A land (pedestrian) survey...” Hidden Splendor Resources modified this paragraph to eliminate the time frame for monitoring as the Division will expect the monitoring to be conducted annually. This will allow Hidden Splendor Resources to conduct subsidence during optimal time frames/seasons and will allow subsidence monitoring and reporting to be systematic.
- Hidden Splendor Resources reviewed its commitments stated within the Subsidence Control and Monitoring Plan, including the paragraph that begins with “To establish an actual...” This commitment is located within section 3.4.8.5, on page 3-29 of the MRP.

**Findings:**

Contents and information provided are sufficient enough to meet the minimum requirements of this section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

This application is recommended for approval at this time.

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