

November 2, 1983

Memo to Coal File:

RE: North American Equities, NV
Blazon #1 Mine
ACT/007/021, Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

On September 22, 1983, Susan Linner and Cy Young of the Division visited the Blazon #1 Mine site, accompanied by Mike Glen of ACZ, Inc., consultants to North American Equities, who were in the process of preparing the Response to the Apparent Completeness Review (ACR). Becky Gillin, vegetation consultant, was also on-site. The purpose of the visit was to view the site selected for the vegetation reference area, to familiarize Division staff with the minesite, and to discuss other areas of concern in the permitting process.

A reference area of approximately one acre had been set up on a spruce/fir/aspen hillside near the surface facilities area. This area was approved for a reference area at this time, due to proximity to and similarities to the affected area. Ms. Gillin was completing the required vegetation sampling on this date. Surface water monitoring has been reinstated at six points. Mr. Glen showed us a couple of seeps off of the permit area that are being monitored.

During a tour of the surface facilities area, Division staff noted a couple areas of concern. One is the fact that the coal refuse shoot is located approximately 10 feet from, and above, Mud Creek. Coal fines were evident on the banks and in the creek itself, within the posted "Buffer Zone" signs. Obviously, the regulations' requirement for a 100 foot buffer zone was not met at the time of construction. It is impractical to require that such a buffer zone be instituted at this time, however, the operator will be required to insure that the stream will not be further impacted, should mining resume. This will probably require installing a barrier, such as a half culvert and fill over the riprapped section of stream. The other area of concern was a dead-end drill road leading to a hole above the surface facilities site. The hole was drilled in 1982 and had been capped, but no reclamation had been done. Slumpage and erosion is occurring along the road. It was later learned from Sandy Pruitt that the landowner has requested that the road be left unreclaimed.

It was also agreed that samples of the waste disposal area needed to be analyzed to determine if special reclamation treatments will be needed. The Clear Creek strip pit was also visited.

SCL
SUSAN C. LINNER
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

SCL/btb

cc: Mike Glen, ACZ, Inc.