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File RT/007/022
Folder # 3



December 20, 1982

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State of Utah
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Attention: Ms. Sandy Pruitt

Dear Sandy:

Per the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining's request, Beaver Creek Coal Company is formally making application for a Small Area Exemption (SAE), to include the area of C.V. Spur located on Exhibit 1. BCCC is making this request based on the following criteria:

- 1) The area in question has received minimal use by operations personnel, and is no longer required in the function of operations.
- 2) The area in question is small in size, approximately .75 acres. This area is, and has been, relatively unaffected by the plant operations, since the plant was opened.
- 3) In the case of a rain event or of snow runoff, as was the case in February, 1982, the amount of actual water passing out of the property untreated would be minimal. This point shall be addressed further in this request.

As an aid in making your determinations to approve this request, BCCC is providing the following information.

Soil Types

The soil type present in the area of the SAE request is presently classes as "Disturbed Land". The available water capacity of this soil is high, and permeability is moderate to slow. These soils formed in alluvium derived from marine shales with gypsum.

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Climatology

Annual precipitation in this area is 6 to 11 inches. Most of this precipitation falls in late summer or early fall in the form of rain.

Hydrology

The original violation issued on February 18, 1982, and vacated March 19, 1982, was based on the fact that snow runoff was observed draining off of the pumphouse access road and into the adjacent drainage ditch leading out of the property. BCCC maintained at the time that this runoff was minimal and that only snow was the cause of this runoff. The amount of runoff at the time of inspection was less than one-half gallon per minute and lasted less than one week, after which time the area dried up.

This area is lower in elevation than the sedimentation ponds (see Exhibit 2). This is due to a natural depression running north to south along the railroad tracks. Without alternate drainage control (i.e., culverts under the access road), it is not possible to drain this area to the northwest toward the sediment ponds. Drainage at the C.V. Spur property naturally occurs in a northeasterly direction (see Exhibit 1).

Vegetation

The vegetation present on the area in question consists mainly of weeds interspersed with native perennials. The most conspicuous annuals and longer-lived species are:

Russian Thistle	<u>Salsola iberica</u>
Halogeton	<u>Halogeton glomeratus</u>
Field Bindweed	<u>Convolvulus arvensis</u>
Burning Bush	<u>Kochia iranica</u>
Squirreltail	<u>Sitanion hystrix</u>
Goosefoot	<u>Chenopodium sp.</u>

This vegetation can act as an erosion control agent for the area in question. There are no immediate plans to reseed or otherwise disturb this area.

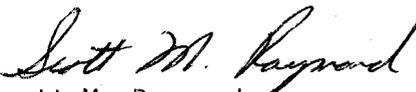
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Based on the aforementioned information, Beaver Creek Coal Company therefore requests that Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining officials review the provided information for subsequent approval.

Should you have any further questions or require further information, please contact myself or Dan Guy at 637-5050.

Sincerely,

BEAVER CREEK COAL COMPANY


Scott M. Raymond
Environmental Coordinator

SMR/daf

Enclosures

cc: D. Guy - W/Attachments
D. Killpack/C.V. Spur
G. Holdaway/BCCC Office
File #7-2-3