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Technical Analysis and Findings

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

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PID: C0070035
TaskID: 4983
Mine Name: SUNNYSIDE REFUSE & SLURRY
Title: MIDTERM COMPLETION RESPONSE

General Contents

Reporting of Technical Data

Analysis:

On September 25th the Division received a response to the review of the SRS Mid-term review. The information provided in the amendment meets the state of Utah R645 requirements for R645-301-121.100. This memo will include a review of that information. The following comments were provided in the Division's initial mid-term review and the Division's analysis is included after each of the original comments:

Topsoil salvaging and distribution were discussed at two areas on the coarse refuse pile during the on site visit. They included a portion of the North East corner of the coarse refuse pile that had been reclaimed in 2011 and a portion of the middle of the pile that had been mined down to the original surface contour. The type and volume of topsoil used in the reclaimed area as well as the volume of soil to be salvaged from the original surface area must be provided as an amendment to the current MRP. Locations should be shown on map 2-1 and possibly 5-2.

Appendix 9-7 contained some of the information regarding phase 1 of the disposal of excess spoil in area #2. Map 2-1 has been updated and text additions to chapter 10 have been provided to identify and provide reference to these details. When phase 3 is initiated the MRP will be updated with the requisite information.

In order to initiate the ten year liability period beginning in 2011 on the reclaimed area SCA could only do supplemental seeding for the first four years of the liability period or 2015.

SCA has been encouraged to keep accurate records of the last augmented seeding in this area in order to start the liability period and subsequently apply for the three phases of bond release.

Optional MRP update: SCA may want to retain the topsoil borrow area sediment pond as a wildlife enhancement structure as referred to in section R645-301-342.100 of the coal rules. This would require a minor amendment to the reclamation portion of the current MRP.

SCA may have as many as five ponds that could meet this criteria when final reclamation is initiated at spoil disposal area #2, at which time an amendment will be submitted for approval of retaining the ponds.

jhelfric

Operation Plan

Topsoil and Subsoil

Analysis:

Analysis:

The revised information does not meet the requirements of R645-301-230, Operation Plan, because topsoil piles which are no longer existant are still shown on Drawings 2-1 and 5-1. There is currently 4,183 CY of topsoil in storage as listed in MRP Section 234. The clear water pile, the hoist pile and the slurry pond topsoil piles were consumed in reclamation. Plate 8-4 Borrow Material Plan has been revised to show the available 4,183 CY of topsoil available for replacement over 9.0 acres.

A revision of Drawing The revegetation test plots were last monitored in 1982. while the revegetation test plot area is still identified on Dwg 2-1, it will be reclaimed at the same time as the surrounding disturbed area. The test plot is shown receiving 1.5 feet of borrow soil on Plates 8-4 and 8-4a.

Deficiencies Details:

R645-301-121.100, The revised information does not meet the requirements of R645-301-230, Operation Plan, because topsoil piles (Clear water pond, Hoist house, and Slurry Pond topsoil piles) which are no longer existant are still shown on Drawings 2-1 and 5-1. In addition, Plate 8-4 reduces dedicated topsoil replacement volumes because of the use of the aforementioned topsoil stockpiles, but does not reduce the area to receive the topsoil which is inconsistent with the narrative.

pburton

Reclamation Plan

General Requirements

Analysis:

The minimum requirements of R645-301-540 are met within the application as relevant topsoil quantities were adjusted in Chapter 2 and Chapter 10 of the MRP text regarding Excess spoil Disposal Area #2, Phase 1 in 2011. Exact volumes of the subsoil to be salvaged form the middle of the pile in Excess spoil disposal area #2, Phase 3 are uncertain and will be determined in preparation for the next phase of reclamation of the Excess Spoil Disposal Area #2.

cparker

Contemporaneous Reclamation General

Analysis:

The minimum requirements of R645-301-553 of backfill and grading are met within the application as there is no change to the existing MRP grading reclamation details in regards to soil backfill. The Permittee completed Phase 1 reclamation of the Excess spoil pile #2 in 2011 and reseeded in 2012 and 2013. The Permittee will test the soil in area for Phase 3 of Excess spoil pile #2 for suitability as a cover material to be placed during the coming reclamation of Phase 2 of excess spoil pile #2.

cparker

Bonding and Insurance General

Analysis:

The application meets the minimum requirements of R645-301-800 as the applicant is current on the bond and insurance standings. The bond which is currently in place to ensure the reclamation of 198.5 acres of disturbance within the Sunnyside Refuse permit area is a collateral bond based on treasury securities held by Wells Fargo.

cparker

Bonding Form of Bond

Analysis:

The application meets the minimum requirements of R645-301-860.100 as the applicant currently maintains a collateral bond amount of \$1,775,000 which is held by Wells Fargo Treasury Securities posted 1/16/02 and 12/13/05. The amount was increased to \$1,755,000 with the bond renewal amendment approved on 2/22/06. The Permittee and Division approved an authorized reduction to \$1,569,000 as of the results of the last Midterm review (#3655) on 6/1/11.

cparker

Bonding Determination of Amount

Analysis:

The application meets the minimum requirements of R645-301-830.140 as the Permittee submitted detailed bond information in regards to the application. The Permittee submitted bond calculations to the Division on August 11, 2015 with updated 2015 unit costs received from local construction companies, the Caterpillar Performance handbook 2015, and the 2015 R.S. Means Heavy Construction Cost Data Handbook. Soil volumes estimated to reclaim the disturbance were obtain from the approved reclamation plan with the cost estimate subsequently determined. The updated demolition, earthwork, and revegetation costs result in a bond amount of \$1,529,000.

cparker

Bonding Terms and Conditions Liability Insurance

Analysis:

The application meets the minimum requirements of R645-301-850 as the applicant currently holds liability insurance through Federal Insurance Company, effective until 8/1/16. The insurance includes the required Marsh from, explosives and claims made per occurrence.

cparker