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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Ted Stewart
Executive Director
James W. Carter
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-5319 (TDD)

DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING FIELD VISIT FORM TECHNICAL

Date : December 9, 1996
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon
Mine: Schoolhouse Canyon and Willow Creek Topsoil Stockpile
File Number: ACT/007/038 *Jo Davidson*
DOGM Staff: Robert Davidson and Pete Hess
Other Attendees: Ben Grimes, CPMC

Purpose:

- Assessment of soil salvage operations within Schoolhouse Canyon.
- Observe if the Willow Creek topsoil pile has been seeded and mulched.

Observations:

Schoolhouse Canyon -

- Soils have not been salvaged from the Schoolhouse Canyon area as specified in the Willow Creek and Castle Gate MRPs.
- Additional fresh refuse has been hauled onto the Schoolhouse refuse pile and has been spread evenly across the entire upper surface. Large piles of freshly hauled refuse are located at the upper end of the refuse pile. The fresh refuse has been leveled as a lift with the edges pushed near the canyon sides.
- The topsoil above the old refuse has not yet been buried nor impacted from the fresh refuse. However, for soil salvage to occur with minimal contamination from the refuse pile, the fresh refuse needs to be pushed away from the Canyon soils prior to soil salvage activities.
- Bill Minchey's construction company has been contracted to remove the topsoil in Schoolhouse Canyon. Machinery was arriving on-site at noon on 12/09/96.

Willow Creek Topsoil Pile -

- The topsoil pile has not been seeded or mulched. Snow cover on the pile is several inches thick and was melting. The air temperature at 8:30 a.m. was well above freezing with the local Price area weather forecast for warm temperatures and rain over the next few days.

Recommendations/Conclusions:

- Within Schoolhouse Canyon, salvage soils as specified in the MRP. If the fresh refuse negatively hinders or impacts the salvage activities and soil quality, issuing an NOV will be warranted.
- Top priority should be given for seeding and mulching the topsoil pile as specified in the MRP. As outlined in the MRP, a temporary cover crop was never established on the pile. As a result, the soil surface is barren of vegetative cover and has been exposed to erosion with fall rains and snows. The MRP specifies that seeding will occur as soon as reasonably feasible once active soil salvaging operations are completed. Active soil salvage was complete in the Willow Creek area early to mid summer.

Signature: *Robert A. Davidson*
Robert A. Davidson, Reclamation Specialist III (Soils)

on December 9, 1996

cc: JOE HELFRICH
PAUL BAKER
PETE HESS, PRICE FIELD OFFICE

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