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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

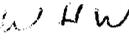
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December 16, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor 

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Clean Coal Stock Pile Area Expansion, Cyprus Plateau Mining, Willow Creek, ACT/007/038-97I, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

On September 30, 1997, the Permittee for the Willow Creek Mine submitted amendment 97I that proposed to expand the clean coal stock pile area. The expansion of the clean coal stock pile would increase the disturbed area by 3.9 acres. The Permittee also requests to make changes to the reclamation of the School House Canyon refuse site and reclamation of the pre-SMCRA cut slopes.

On December 12, 1997 the Permittee met with the Division to discuss the clean coal stock pile area expansion. The Permittee provided the Division with updated maps and text. The Permittee also helped the Division locate information the was submitted in the September 30, 1997 submittal and not clearly labeled.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

PERMIT AREA AND PREMINING CONDITIONS

Regulatory Requirements: R645-301-521.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

Analysis:

Contour Maps

Map 3.4-8, Operations Contour Map, shows the expanded disturbed area boundary. Map 3.4-8 shows the contours in and around the proposed expansion area. Map 3.4-8 meets the requirements of R645-301-150 and R645-301-151 by showing the angle of inclination (contour elevations) along the prevailing slope extending 100 linear feet above and below the area to be disturbed.

Findings:

The Permittee met the requirements of R645-301-150 and R645-301-151.

OPERATIONAL PLAN

OPERATIONAL ENGINEERING

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.2, 784.11; R645-301-231, -301-526, -301-528, -301-521, -301-526.

Mining Operations And Facilities

Type and Method of Mining Operations

Analysis:

Figure 1, Soil Sample Locations map, shows the maximum extent of the expanded clean coal pile. The east boundary of the coal pile is also the permit and disturbed area boundary.

The Division is concerned about how the Permittee will keep coal from going outside the disturbed area. The Permittee states that because of the steep slope placing any barriers to prevent coal from going outside the disturbed area is impractical. The Permittee will instruct the people operating the coal storage area to avoid placing coal near the disturbed area boundary.

Findings:

The Permittee met the requirements of R645-301-521.180 and R645-301-521.190.

RECLAMATION PLAN

Bonding and Insurance Requirements

Determination Of Bond Amount

Analysis:

The Permittee supply the Division with updated reclamation cost information. The cost to reclaim the coal pile expansion area is \$49,537. The additional amount is less than 5% of the reclamation cost. The Division usually does not require additional bond to be posted when the increase is less than 5%.

Findings:

The Permittee met the requirements of R645-301-830.140.

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Recommendation:

Approve the clean coal pile area expansion.

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