

0033



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

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

(801) 538-5340

(801) 359-3940 (Fax)

August 27, 1997

To: File

Thru: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor, Compliance *JH*

From: Peter Hess, Reclamation Specialist III *PHH*

RE: Minor Coal Exploration, Dinosaur Canyon (Hole MC-129), Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation, Willow Creek Mine, ACT/007/038-97E, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

The above submittal was received in the Price Field Office on August 8, 1997. The permittee is proposing to re-open an existing pre-SMCRA exploration road in order to obtain geologic data and ascertain if the hole (MC-129) was plugged for its entire length in order to prevent a re-occurrence of the events of July 1, 1997. As you will recall, another borehole was encountered on that day which caused flooding of the active "D" seam entries from the inundated Kenilworth workings.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

Analysis:

The length of road which the permittee proposes to reopen is approximately 3,000 feet long. This, plus the area of the drill pad which will have to be re-established, constitutes less than one acre of disturbance. No coal will be extracted; geologic data will be obtained by utilizing geophysical bore hole equipment. Upon completion of data collection, the hole will be plugged for its entire length as required by R645-301-631. This will ensure the safety of the miners in the "D" seam workings.

Findings:

The requirements of this section of the regulations are considered adequate with regard to this minor exploration application.



Page 2

File/J. Helfrich
ACT/007/038-97E
August 27, 1997

RECLAMATION PLAN:

Upon completion of the MC-129 plugging, the permittee has committed to reclaim the drill pad by backfilling the mudpit, re-distributing the removed soils and vegetation removed during the re-establishment of the pad, and scarifying and seeding both the pad and access road. Sediment control devices (silt fences) will be left in place and maintained until it has been determined by the Division that adequate vegetation has been re-established to warrant the removal of same. Drainages will be returned to their pre-drilling (1997) configuration; (an inspection of the old road bed on 8/25 revealed that some fill will need to be placed in a few drainages to establish an adequate roadway width for the drill rig, etc.). This meets the requirements for reclamation standards, i.e., R645-202-200-240 et seq.

Findings:

The requirements for this section of the R645 regulations have been adequately addressed by the permittee.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is my recommendation that the submittal for the **NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONDUCT MINOR COAL EXPLORATION (DINOSAUR CANYON) ACT/007/038-97E** be approved.

sd
enclosures