



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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NRZ

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DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

Date: August 7, 2000

Time: 12:30pm to 3:00pm

DOGM Staff: Mike Suflita, Hydrologist and Pete Hess, Inspector *ms*

Other Attendees: Vicki Miller, Environmental Specialist, Willow Creek Mine

Re: Ditch CGD-5, Plateau Mining Company, Willow Creek Mine,
ACT/007/038 External file

PURPOSE:

Conduct site visit regarding Amendment 00-1, which reroutes flows from ditch CGD-5 into ditches CGD -6 and -7.

OBSERVATIONS:

1. The reason for the requested change in ditch flows was an earthquake caused an escarpment to collapse into ditch 5 with much debris reaching the top of the waste rock pile. The escarpment is clearly unsafe and there is danger of further rockfalls. Fresh cracks appear in the escarpment, which is only a couple hundred feet thick.
2. The planned rerouting of ditch 5 flows into ditch 18 and then into ditches 6 and 7 is a feasible option. There are really no other options, but this one will work. We walked the complete length of the proposed project from where ditch 5 will be diverted all the way to the outfall of the culvert that carries flows into the Price River. Printed pictures were taken of the areas involved. They were labeled, mounted, and placed in the Public Information Center in the mine file.
3. Upper ditches 6 and 7 were properly cut into the top of the waste rock pile and would contain flows as designed. The pile contents appear quite porous and much of the flows would drain into the pile. The pile contains an underdrain system and piezometers which are monitored to check any potential water retention in the pile. Inspection records were checked to be sure monitoring is being conducted.
4. Lower ditches 6 and 7 are both grouted in their upper reaches, however, they have riprap in the lower reaches. The entire length will be grouted after the proposed amendment. Both ditches appear to have sufficient depth to accommodate the 20 cfs increase in flow. Grouting of the

existing channels has performed successfully with no obvious cracks or overflows.

5. Both ditches, 6 and 7, flow into sediment pond 13. Looking at the sediment pond, it appears nearly all the flow is down ditch 6. Much sediment has accumulated below culvert 4, which is fed by ditch 6, while no discernable sediment is present at the end of ditch 7.

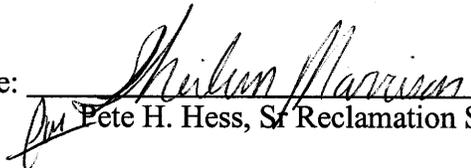
6. There is some concern that the trash rack at the inlet to CGC-4 has too small of openings in the steel mesh. They are only one-inch in opening size and debris shows flows have reached the top of the mesh. Greater flows could result in overtopping the basin and flows going down the road. Flows would be caught in sediment pond 1, however, a maintenance problem would be created. The Operator indicated they would look at possible revisions.

7. The inlet and outlet of CGC-5 are both clear. This culvert takes the outflow of the sediment pond emergency spillway and conducts it to the Price River.

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

From a field review standpoint, the proposed amendment can be approved. However, the design parameters will need to be verified.

Signature:  on August 15, 2000
Mike J. Suflita, Sr Reclamation Specialist

Signature:  on August 15, 2000
Pete H. Hess, Sr Reclamation Specialist