



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

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November 26, 2001

TO: Internal File

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Reclamation Specialist/Engineering, Team Lead

RE: Power Line Transfer, Plateau Mining Corporation, Willow Creek Mine, C/007/038-01D-3

SSD
RM
SM

SUMMARY:

The permittee would like to transfer power lines at Sowbelly, Hardscrabble, and Crandall Canyon to the Willow Creek Mine. Currently, these power lines are in the Castle Gate Permit. These power lines may be part of a land-sell at Crandall Canyon. Castle Gate Holding Company and Plateau Mining Corporation are subsidiaries of RAG American Coal Company.

BACKGROUND:

The review has taken additional time. There was some speculation that Utah Power and Light might own these power lines, as is the case at several mines in this area. The permittee was asked to review their legal documents to find out if PacifiCorp (Utah Power and Light) might own and control these power lines. After several weeks, the records showed that these power lines did belong to Castle Gate Holding Company.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

GENERAL CONTENTS

LEGAL DESCRIPTION AND STATUS OF UNSUITABILITY CLAIMS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 778.16; 30 CFR 779.12(a); 30 CFR 779.24(a)(b)(c); R645-300-121.120; R645-301-112.800; R645-300-141; R645-301-115.

TECHNICAL MEMO

Analysis:

The power lines are shown on Figure 4.5-13. Dashed lines throughout the figure represent the utility corridor and it is also the permit area. The permittee has updated chapter one to include the legal description of the power lines.

Findings:

Information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

OPERATION PLAN

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

Analysis:

Mining Facilities Maps

Figure 4.5-13 shows the power line and the new permitted area. This map is Professional Engineer certified by John W. Borla, badge No. 472351.

Findings:

The information provided is considered complete and meets the requirements of this section of the R645 Coal Rules.

RECLAMATION PLAN

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

Analysis:

The permittee will cut the power poles below the surface and remove associated wiring and poles from the site.

Findings:

The information provided is consider complete and meets the requirements of this section of the R645 Coal Rules.

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

Analysis:

Determination of bond amount

The permittee has provided information that the removal of the power lines would cost \$46,912. This information is on Exhibit 17 and explains the cost and procedures on the reclamation and removal of the power lines and poles. This information was formulated by using the same cost estimate numbers for removal of power poles at Willow Creek. These numbers were accepted in the bond calculations at Willow Creek. The cost for the removal of power lines and poles are less than the 5% contingency.

Findings:

The information provided is consider complete and meets the requirements of this section of the R645 Coal Rules.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The permittee has met all of the requirements for the transfer of power lines to the Willow Creek permit. This amendment is recommended for approval.

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