

June 10, 2003

Johnny Pappas, Sr. Environmental Engineer
Plateau Mining Corporation
P.O. Box 30
Helper, Utah 84526-0030

Re: Determination of Incomplete Application, Industrial Post Mining Land Use Change, Willow Creek Mine Main Facilities Area, Plateau Mining Corporation, Willow Creek Mine, C/007/038-SR03D, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Pappas:

The Division has reviewed the above-referenced significant revision to the Willow Creek Mining and Reclamation Plan and determined that it is not administratively complete. The application does not adequately address reclamation of the property to Approximate Original Contour (AOC) nor does it address elimination of the highwall. Another deficiency in the application is that it fails to provide adequate information about the alternative postmining land use and the likelihood for achievement of that use. A copy of our Administrative Completeness Review Worksheet provides more detail and is enclosed for your review. Because the application is not administratively complete we are returning it to you. If you desire to address the noted deficiencies, you may submit the application at a future date.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5325 or Karl R. Houskeeper at (435) 613-5330.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

KRH/sd
Enclosure
cc: Price Field Office
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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLETENESS REVIEW WORKSHEET
(R645-100)**

DATE: June 5, 2003

REVIEWER(S): Karl R. Houskeeper, Dana Dean

APPLICANT: Plateau Mining Corporation

MINE NAME: Willow Creek **FILE NO.:** C/007/038-SR03D

"Administratively Complete Application" means an application for permit approval or approval for coal exploration, where required, which the Division determines to contain information addressing each application requirement of the State Program and to contain all information necessary to initiate processing and public review.

Directions: The categories listed below correspond to the minimum requirements for information necessary to initiate processing and public review. If a category is checked the Applicant has met the Completeness requirement for that category. If a category is not checked, the Completeness requirements have not been met. The comments column will identify the deficiency and what is necessary to correct it.

Comments

301-112	Identification of Interests	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
100	Applicant's Business Structure	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
210	Applicant's Name/Address/Phone	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
220	Resident Agent's Name/Address/Phone	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
230	Name/Address/Phone of AML Fees Payer	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
300	Corporate Structure & Ownership	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
400	Identify Other Mining Operations in US	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
500	Surface & Mineral Ownership	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
600	Ownership Contiguous to Permit	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
700	MSHA Numbers	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
800	Interest in Contiguous Lands	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-113	Violation Information	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
100	Suspension or Revocation Information	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
300	List of Violations - 3 Previous Years	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-114	Right of Entry	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-115	Status of Unsuitability Claims	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-116	Permit Term	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-117	Insurance	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
	Proof of Publication	<u>X</u>	Will be required at a later date.
	Facilities and Structures Used in Common	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-118	Filing Fee	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-123	Notarized Signature of Responsible Official	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301-130	Information Collection: Technical Data Accompanied by Names of Persons or Organizations that Collected and Analyzed the Data - Dates of Collections - and Analysis of the Data and Description of the Methodology Used to Collect and Analyze Data	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-200	Soils	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
211	Description of Pre-mining Soil Resources	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
221	Prime Farmland Investigation	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
222	Soil Survey	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
224	Substitute Topsoil Info (When Proposed)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
230	Operation Plan Topsoil Handling/Removal/Storage	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
240	Reclamation Plan Soil Redistribution/Stabilization	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-300	Biology	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
320	Vegetation Information	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
322	Fish and Wildlife Information	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
323	Maps/Photos Vegetation-Fish-Wildlife Areas	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
330	Operation Plan Vegetation-Fish-Wildlife Protection	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
341	Reclamation Plan for Revegetation	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
342	Fish & Wildlife Plan for Reclamation Phase	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-400	Land Use and Air Quality —	This Significant Revision proposes an alternative land use that if approved would allow an industrial land use. The proposed postmining land use area encompasses approximately 36.4 acres. Facilities such as the shop, warehouse, bathhouse/administrative building, substation, access roads, material storage areas, and runoff control pond would remain. To achieve this post mining land use, the reclaimed AML Highwall that was redisturbed by the mine facilities would not be reclaimed to AOC that existed after the AML reclamation project.
411	Pre-Mining Land Use Information (Includes Cultural Resources) <u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
412	Post-Mining Land Use Information —	<p>Willow Creek Mine Analysis and Findings, April 22, 1996, Reclamation Plan, Post Mining Land Use, Analysis States:</p> <p>"The Permittee and the Division acknowledge that the site was previously disturbed by coal mining activities and reclaimed to state and federal standards. Parts of the reclaimed site contain exposed highwall remnant. Both the Division and OSM determined that the highwall did not have to be completely back filled in order to meet all state and federal reclamation requirements."</p> <p>"The Division has determined that the highwall reclamation must meet or exceed the prior approved plan. Highwall remnant will be allowed but they cannot exceed the height or length of the highwalls that existed prior to disturbance."</p> <p>The proposed significant revision for a post mining land use change to allow the surface facilities to remain for an industrial use does not address the AOC requirements.</p> <p>Information is provided in the submittal that shows that the area could be utilized for an industrial use, but fails to indicate that there is a reasonable likelihood for achievement of the use. The application does not show any ownership and control changes, a lease or tenant agreement, contract or letter of intent that would constitute an industrial useage of the facilities. No information has been provided to the Division that indicates that an interested party has a desire or the means to use the facilities for an industrial use.</p> <p>The Willow Creek Mine has initiated reclamation activities. A letter from Plateau Mining Corporation dated September 3, 2002 states, "This letter is notification that Plateau Mining Corporation is beginning the process of reclaiming the surface facilities at the Willow Creek Mine."</p>

301-500	Engineering	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
510 520	General Description of Operation Plan (Maps, Locations, Cross-Sections, Narrative, Descriptions & Calculations)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
522	Coal Recovery Description	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
523	Mining Methods	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
524	Blasting and Explosives Plan	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
525	Subsidence Control Plan	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
526	Mine Facilities Description (Narrative, Plans, Maps) Including Existing Structures & Support Facilities	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
527	Transportation Facilities (Including Plans & Maps)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
528	Coal Mine Waste Plans (Description & Designs)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
529	Management of Mine Openings (Design)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
531	General Plans for Structures	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
532	Sediment Control	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
533	Impoundments	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-534	Roads (Plans, Drawings, Designs, & Specifications)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
535	Spoil	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
536	Coal Mine Waste	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
537	Regraded Slopes	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
540 541-542	Reclamation Narrative, Maps and Plans	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
551	Casing and Sealing Underground Openings	X	Not applicable to this review.
553	Backfilling and Grading Description	—	Information has been provided for the alternative post mining land use to allow an industrial use. Since the proposed significant revision does not meet AOC, the information in this section would need to be re-evaluated and adjusted with any future proposal that may include a different scenario.

301-600	Geology	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
621	Description of Geology (Permit & Adjacent Area)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
622	Geologic Cross-Sections, Maps, and Plans	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
630	Plans for Casing and Sealing Holes	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-700	Hydrology	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
721	Description of Hydrologic Resources (Permit and Adjacent Area)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
722	Cross-Sections and Maps Subsurface Water - Surface Water - Monitoring Stations - Wells	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
723	Sampling and Analysis	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
724	Baseline Information Ground Water - Surface Water - Geology - Climatological & Supplemental; If Needed	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
728	PHC Determination	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
730	General Operation Plan Minimize Disturbance to Hydrologic Balance & Compliance with Clean Water Act	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
731	Ground and Surface Water Protection	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
732	Ground and Surface Water Monitoring	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

301-740	Plans and Designs Operation and Reclamation Plan Sediment Control Measures	—	Information on the reclamation of hydrologic structures has been submitted. Since the proposed significant revision does not meet AOC requirements, this information may need to be adjusted to fit with any future proposals.	
	Siltation Structures	—		
	Sediment Ponds	—		
	Other Treatment Facilities	—		
	Diversions	—		
	Road Drainage	—		
	Impoundments	—		
	Discharge Structures	—		
	Disposal of Excess Spoil	<u>X</u>		Not applicable to this review.
	Coal Mine Waste	<u>X</u>		Not applicable to this review.
	Disposal of Non-Coal Mine Waste	<u>X</u>		Not applicable to this review.
Casing and Sealing of Wells	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.		

301-800	Bonding and Insurance	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
820	Applicant Have Adequate Bond at Permit Issuance	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
830	Bond Estimate and Calculations Provided	—	Information has been provided for the alternative post mining land use to allow an industrial use. Since the proposed significant revision does not meet AOC, the information in this section would need to be re-evaluated and adjusted with any future proposal that may include a different scenario.
890	Certificate of Insurance Provided	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

302-200	Special Categories of Mining	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
210	Experimental Practices Mining	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
220	Mountaintop Removal Mining	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
230	Steep Slope Mining	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
240	Auger Mining	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
250	In Situ Processing Activities	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

302-260	Coal Processing Plants (Not Located Within Permit Area of Mine)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
270	Variations From Approximate Original Contour Restoration Requirements	—	The proposed significant revision for a post mining land use change to allow an industrial use does not contain the necessary information to request a variance from AOC. As indicated in 301-400 & 301-412 of this document, the AML reclaimed slope that was redisturbed by the mine facilities is to be reclaimed to the same standard (AOC) or a greater standard. This standard is established by what existed after the AML reclamation and before the redisturbance of the Willow Creek Mine.
280	Variations for Delay in Contemporaneous Reclamation Requirement in Combined Surface and Underground Coal Mining Activities	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
290	Small Operator Assistance Program (SOAP)	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.

302-300	Special Areas of Mining	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
301	Prime Farmland	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.
302	Alluvial Valley Floors	<u>X</u>	Not applicable to this review.