0027

From: <Steve_Rigby@blm.gov>
To: "Wayne Hedberg" <WAYNEHEDBERG@utah.gov>
Date: 4/27/2007 7:10 AM
Subject: Re: Crandall Canyon Shaft Water Pumping and Backfilling

CC: "David Darby" <DAVEDARBY@utah.gov>, "Dennis (WC) 4737 Ware" <dware@found...

Sounds like a good plan to me.

S. Rigby

4/007/0038

"Wayne Hedberg" <WAYNEHEDBERG@utah.gov> 04/26/2007 05:16 PM

To: "Dennis (WC) 4737 Ware" <dware@foundationcoal.com>

cc: "jeff mckenzie" <Jeff_McKenzie@blm.gov>, <Stan_Perkes@blm.gov>, <Steve_Rigby@blm.gov>, "David Darby" <DAVEDARBY@utah.gov>, "Mary Ann Wright" <MARYANNWRIGHT@utah.gov>, "Pam Grubaugh-Littig" <PAMGRUBAUGHLITTIG@utah.gov>, "Pete Hess" <PETEHESS@utah.gov>

Subject: Re: Crandall Canyon Shaft Water Pumping and Backfilling

Dennis,
Thank you for the summary explaining the emergency safety situation at the shaft. We received the faxed settling basin design calculations and cross-sections prepared by Rich White of Earth Fax. We will evaluate this information and advise you ASAP if we have any questions or concerns. Division management has been advised of the situation and expressed their concurrence with my earlier verbal approval to move forward with your proposal to stabilize the situation.
We look forward to our continued communication and will provide onsite assistance and coordination as necessary during the shaft stabilization activities.

Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor
Coal Regulatory Program
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
(801)538-5286

>>> "Ware, Dennis (WC) 4737" <dware@foundationcoal.com> 4/26/2007 2:45 PM
>>>
Jeff and Wayne,

First, I want to thank both of you individually, as well as the BLM and the Division for your quick response and approval to move forward as we discussed by phone a few minutes ago and as I have briefly outlined below.

When we went on site at Crandall Canyon this morning about 7:00 a.m. we found that the loose material on the south side of the shaft has fallen into the shaft. Not only had this material (aprox. 10 to 15 yards) fallen into the shaft it also took out the water pump, the electrical pump cable, the well sounder and possibly some of the water pipe. It is unknown at this time if any of the pumping equipment can be salvaged. If it cannot be safely salvaged we will cut it at the surface and let it fall into the shaft. Because of the safety issues at the site we will not pump any more water at this time. When we discontinued pumping water last evening the water level was down 280 feet below the surface, therefore, there is about 150 feet of water remaining in the shaft (the water depth was originally at the 430 foot depth). As best as we can calculate, water is running into the shaft at an elevation approximately 130 feet below the surface and at a rate of 7 to 8 gallons per minute. At this inflow rate it is filling up the shaft at a rate of approximately 10,080 to 11,520 gallons or 4.3 to 4.9 feet per day. Since we will not be able to pump again without some major rework of the surface and safety platform we feel it is important to begin backfilling the shaft before the water refills the shaft again. We propose to use the material we remove from the pond which we will excavate to the west of the shaft as well as material we will haul from Hwy 6. We will backfill this fill material into the shaft up to an elevation of 130 feet below the surface or until the water column comes up to the top of the cement lined shaft (which is about 10 feet below the current surface) whichever occurs first. We will likely begin excavation of the pond and backfilling of the shaft at first light tomorrow. It will take about 1.5 to 2 days to excavate the pond and about the same amount of time to backfill the shaft to the level identified above. At this point we will shut down and wait to see how much water will settle out and can be discharged, any water that can not be discharged will be pumped into the pond for evaporation. At any rate, we will have time to talk further about how to deal with the water over the next few days or weeks. I will provide a progress report sometime tomorrow or Monday and will stay in close contact with you by phone.

As you know, Mr. Richard White of EarthFAX Engineering has designed the pond and the PE stamped design has been faxed to the Division SLC office. If the Division needs more information on the design before construction is complete please contact Richard at 801:561:1555, otherwise, we will provide an as-built when the pond is finished. It will take about 1.5 to two days to construct the pond.

Again thank you for your continued support on this important project.

Dennis Ware

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