



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

DATE: April 8, 1998.
DOGM STAFF: Robert Davidson
ATTENDANTS: Chris Hansen, Skyline Mine
RE: Mining Phase II Construction Plans, Dugout Mine, Canyon Fuel Company, ACT/007/039, Carbon County, Utah

Purpose:

- Observe topsoil resources and contemplate topsoil protection plans for Phase II development of the Dugout Mine facility area.

Background:

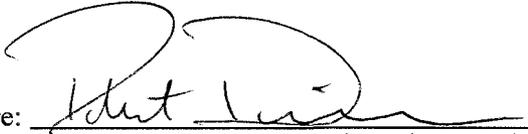
- Phase I mining plans have been approved and the mining permit has been issued for the Dugout Mine. Topsoil resources have been identified within the disturbance area and topsoil salvage plans have been identified for Phase I development. Phase II development will affect a greater extent of the topsoil resources within the disturbance area. The purpose for this field trip was to identify those areas for additional topsoil salvage and resource protection measures during Phase II mining development.

Field Observations:

- Phase II construction will place an electrical substation on an expanded pad area on the south-east canyon wall above the canyon floor. Currently, an old highwall and pad outslope area exists from past mining activities. The pad area is located on Plate 2-2, Disturbed Area Soils Map, soil test pit TP-2. The current pad area will be expanded by constructing a hilfiker wall at the base of the current outslope. The outslope materials consist of downcast overburden and disturbed soils, with the soils and finer-grained materials more prevalent at the upper reaches of the out slope and boulders and coarser-grained materials at the base.

Recommendations and Conclusions:

- The current MRP states that disturbed soils will not be salvaged. Since the pad outslope consists of disturbed soils, they will not be salvaged but left in place and buried by fills when the hilfiker wall is constructed.
- The current pad and overcast materials have been identified in the MRP as potential borrow area materials to be used during reclamation (see appendix 2-6).
- Since these materials meet DOGM criteria for overburden and substitute topsoil, it was decided that they will be used to help reclaim the substation pad area during reclamation. The fills used to construct the extra pad area and hilfiker wall may be used to fill against the highwall and cutslopes behind the pad area. Then, after removal of the fills and hilfiker wall is complete, the overcast soils and substitute soils can be pulled back using a trackhoe to help meet approximate original contour and to help soil the area for revegetation.

Signature: 

Robert A. Davidson, Reclamation Specialist III (Soils)

on April 9, 1998