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

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Ted Stewart
Executive Director
James W. Carter
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-7223 (TDD)

March 6, 1998

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Wayne Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist WWW

RE: TA Environmental Section Only, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Dugout Canyon Mine, PRO/007/039, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

GENERAL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 783.12; R645-301-411, -301-521, -301-721.

Analysis:

The environmental resource information required in Section R645-301-521 pertains to lands subject to surface coal mining operations. A detailed analysis of those requirements will be done in the permit area subsection of the environmental resource section of the TA.

Findings:

The environmental resource information required in Section R645-301-521 pertains to lands subject to surface coal mining operations. A detailed analysis of those requirements will be done in the permit area subsection of the environmental resource section of the TA.

PERMIT AREA

Regulatory Requirements: 30 CFR Sec. 783.12; R645-301-521.

Analysis:

Surface ownership for permit area and adjacent lands are shown on Figure 1-1. Figure 1-2

shows coal ownership in and around the permit area. The permit boundary contains all of lease ML-42648 except for the E1/2 of Section 8 and the NE1/4 of Section 17 and the permit boundary also includes the S1/2SE1/4 of Section 9 from lease ML-42649.

In Section 114 of the PAP the Applicant states:

> "The disturbed area boundary encompasses 10.4 acres. That acreage includes a pre- and post mining road with an area of 0.9 acres."

The legal descriptions for the lease areas are given in Appendix 1-4 and in Section 114 Right-of-Entry Information. The leases are described as:

Lease ML-42648 - (3640 acres) - Approved
T. 13 S., R. 12 E., SLBM, Utah

Section 8:	E1/2
Section 10:	S1/2
Section 11:	S1/2
Sections 14 and 15:	All
Section 17:	NE1/4; E1/2SW1/4; SE1/4
Section 20:	E1/2NW1/4; SW1/4NW1/4; N1/2NE1/4
Section 21:	N1/2NW1/4; NE1/4
Section 22:	N1/2; N1/2S1/2
Section 23:	W1/2NW1/4

Lease ML-42649 - (2212 acres) - Approved
T. 13 S., R. 12 E., SLBM, Utah

Section 3:	Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, S1/2 (all)
Section 4:	Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, S1/2 (all)
Section 5:	Lots 1, 2, SE1/4
Section 9:	All
Section 10:	N1/2
Section 11:	N1/2

Fee land owned by Soldier Creek Coal Company (800 acres) as described below:

T. 13 S., R. 12 E., SLBM, Utah

Section 16:	All
Section 23:	E1/2NW1/4; W1/2NE1/4

The permit area is also shown other plate. Plate 5-5 shows the proposed permit boundaries and was certified by a professional engineer.

Findings:

The Applicant meets the requirements of R645-301-521.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

Analysis:

When required by the Coal Mining Rules, cross sections, maps, and plans included in the MRP and have been prepared by or under the direction of and certified by a qualified, registered, professional engineer with assistance from experts in related fields.

Findings:

The Applicant has met the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

Affected Area Boundary Maps

Analysis:

The Applicant has met the requirements of R645-301-521.141. Plate 5-5 clearly shows the boundaries of all areas proposed to be affected over the estimated total life of the coal mining and reclamation operations.

In Section 523 of the PAP the Applicant states that they schedule mining to begin in 1998. The dates on Plate 5-5 show that the Applicant hopes to mine until 2025. Not all the proposed mining areas are in the proposed permit area. The Applicant wants to learn the mining conditions before permitting total proposed area. The Division understands the Applicant cannot determine that mining condition until production begins. The Division will allow the Applicant to permit part of the life-of-mine area at this time. If the Applicant wants to expand the permit area he can do so later. Increasing or decreasing the affected area boundaries will require a separate permitting action.

Findings:

The Applicant has met the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

Existing Structures and Facilities Maps

Analysis:

In Section 521.100 of the PAP the Applicant states:

"No buildings are located in and within 1000 feet of the permit area. No transmission lines, pipelines, or agricultural drainage tile fields exist within, passing through, or passing over the proposed permit area. Hence, they do not provide a map of these nonexistent facilities in accordance with R645-301-521.123 and R645-301-124.

An existing county road enters the permit area in the NE1/4, SE1/4 Sec. 22, T. 13 S., R. 12 E., extending within that section for approximately 500 feet within the permit area. The road then exits the permit area for approximately 1300 feet of road length, then reenters the permit area in the SW1/4 NW1/4 Section 23, where it ends at the southern edge of the proposed disturbed area boundary. The county road lies on land either owned by the State of Utah or the United States of America. Other existing roads within the disturbed area and permit area are privately owned and maintained roads (see Plate 4-1). The general locations of roads within and adjacent to the permit area are shown on Plate 5-5."

There is an existing power line in the proposed permit and disturbed area. The Applicant contacted Utah Power and Light about the power line. The Applicant claims that the power line is not considered a transmission line by Utah Power and Light. The only potential customer that will use the power line is the Applicant. The Applicant plans on having the line move and modified during construction. Division staff has visited the area and is aware of the power lines location. While the Division would prefer that the Applicant show the existing power line on a map that information is not needed at this time.

Findings:

The Applicant has met the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

Existing Surface Configuration Maps

Analysis:

In Section 521, Land Surface Configuration the Applicant states:

"Surface contours of undisturbed areas adjacent to proposed disturbed areas associated with the mine are shown on Plate 5-2A. As stated in Section 512.100 of this M&RP, surface facilities have been in existence on the west side of Dugout Canyon since March 1952. As a result, pre-mining topographic maps do not exist. However, the surface contours in undisturbed areas shown on Plate 5-2A are considered generally indicative of original land slopes in the vicinity of the mine. A map showing topographic conditions prior to disturbance by SCM is provided as Plate 5-2C"

Plate 5-2C meets the requirements of R645-301-521.151 because it shows the contour 100 linear feet above and below the disturbed area.

Findings:

The Applicant met the minimum regulatory requirements of R645-301-521.151.

Mine Workings Maps

Analysis:

Plate 5-1 shows the location of the mine workings that existed before the Division issued the permit. Plate 5-1 shows the pre-SMCRA mine workings in the Rock Canyon and Gilson seams and the old mine openings. Richard White certified plate 5-1.

Findings:

The Applicant has met the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

Permit Area Boundary Maps

Analysis:

Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2 and Plate 5-2A met the requirements of R645-301-521.131, R645-301-521.132 and R645-301-521.141.

Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2 are in Chapter 1 of the PAP. They show the surface and coal ownership. The Applicant show the legal descriptions of the fee land, coal and coal leases in Chapter 1 of the PAP. Plate 5-2A shows the permit boundary for the first five years and the life-of-mine area.

Findings:

The Applicant has met the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

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The Applicant met the minimum requirements of this section.

Surface and Subsurface Manmade Features Maps

Analysis:

Plates 4-1 and 5-2A depict the location of all surface and subsurface manmade features within 1,000 feet of the proposed permit boundary. The only major manmade features in the area are roads and power lines.

Findings:

The Applicant met the minimum requirements of this section.

Surface and Subsurface Ownership Maps

Analysis:

Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2 met the requirements of R645-301-521.131 and R645-301-521.132.

Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2 are in Chapter 1 of the PAP. They show the surface and coal ownership. The Applicant show the legal descriptions of the fee land, coal and coal leases in Chapter 1 of the PAP.

Findings:

The Applicant has met the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.