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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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November 11, 1998

To: File

Thru: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor, Compliance *JH*

From: Stephen Demczak, Reclamation Specialist *SD*

RE: Explosives Plan for Five Pounds or Less, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC., Dugout Canyon Mine, ACT 007/039-98G, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

The permittee has requested to use five pounds or less of explosives for each one shot (blast). The permittee has submitted twenty shots or twenty holes in the amendment. This is for surface development at Dugout Mine.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

Blasting and Explosives

Regulatory Reference: R645-524 thru R645-524.130

Analysis:

The permittee has committed to have a certified blaster, and have at least one other person be present other than the blaster.

Findings:

The permittee has met the requirements of the blaster certification section of the engineering section in the R645 Coal Rules.

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-524.212



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Analysis:

The permittee has addressed that the blasts will be within 500 feet of an active and abandoned underground coal mine and needs MSHA approval.

Findings:

The permittee will need to send a copy of MSHA findings to the Division prior to using explosives on the surface at Dugout Mine.

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-524.230

Analysis:

The permittee has submitted an explosives plan to the Division as required in the Coal Rules.

Finding:

This section is considered to be complete.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this amendment be approved with a stipulation being **no blasting will occur until the Division receives a finding from MSHA.**

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In addition, BLM would like to further clarify that our concurrence with Canyon Fuel is not to be construed as a determination premised on an evaluation of the potential surface impacts or maximum economic recovery of the reserve encompassed by "Phase 1".

The BLM sincerely appreciates Canyon Fuel's concern and notification of intent for this aspect of the Dugout Canyon Mine plan. If you have any questions, please contact Barry Grosely in the Price Field Office at (435) 636-3606.

Sincerely,



Price Field Manager

cc: UT-921, SD, Utah
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