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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 10, 2001

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM:

Stephen J. Demczak, Sr. Reclamation Specialist, Team Lead

SD for JTD.

RE:

Sediment for Gilson Seam, Canyon Fuel Company, Dugout Mine, [REDACTED] 9-AM01G

SUMMARY:

Canyon Fuel has submitted an amendment requesting to pump sediment pond water into the abandoned Gilson Mine during pond clean out at the Dugout Mine. This mine is located on the east and west sides of the Canyon. The permittee is in the process of receiving MSHA approval to pump water into the abandoned mine.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 773.17, 774.13, 784.14, 784.16, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-300-140, -300-141, -300-142, -300-143, -300-144, -300-145, -300-146, -300-147, -300-147, -300-148, -301-512, -301-514, -301-521, -301-531, -301-532, -301-533, -301-536, -301-542, -301-720, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-761, -301-764.

Analysis:

Discharges

TECHNICAL MEMO

The permittee is requesting to pump sediment pond water during clean out into the Gilson Mine. This mine has been sealed for several years and is located on the east and west sides of the canyon. This action requires MSHA approval under R6450-301-513 and R645-731.511.4. Currently, Canyon Fuel is in the process of receiving an approval.

The permittee has to make a demonstration that the discharge will minimize disturbance to the hydrologic balance on the permit area, prevent material damage outside the permit area, and otherwise eliminate public hazards resulting from coal mining and reclamation operations. This information was not addressed in the submittal.

The permittee must give the maximum quality of water that would be pumped underground during a sediment pond clean out and identify which water quality standards or effluent limitations will be exceeded.

Findings:

The permittee has not met the requirements of the Utah Coal Rules R645 301-731.511 thru R645-301-731.511. Prior to approval, the operator must provide the following in accordance with:

R645-301-731-511.1 – A demonstration by the permittee must show that the discharge will minimize disturbance to the hydrologic balance on the permit area, prevent material damage outside the permit area, and otherwise eliminate public hazards resulting from coal mining and reclamation.

R645-301-731-511.3 – The permittee must give the maximum quality of water that would be pumped underground during sediment pond clean out and identify which water quality standards or effluent limitations will be exceeded.

R645-301-731-511.4 - The permittee must receive an approval from MSHA to pump water into an underground mine workings.

RECOMMENDATION:

Prior to approval, the requirements of R645-301-713.511.1, R645-301731-511.3, and R645-301-731-511.4 must be provided as outlined above.

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