



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

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November 26, 2001

TO: Internal File

FROM: Stephen J. Demczak, Sr. Reclamation Specialist, Team Lead *SJD*

RE: Sediment for Gilson Seam, Canyon Fuel Company, Dugout Mine, C/007/039-01G-1

SUMMARY:

Canyon Fuel has submitted an amendment requesting to pump sediment pond water into the abandoned West Gilson Mine during pond clean out at the Dugout Mine. This mine is located on the west sides of the Canyon. The permittee has received MSHA approval to pump water into the abandoned Gilson West 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 West Gilson Mine. This mine has been sealed for several years and is located on the west side of the canyon. This action requires MSHA approval under R6450-301-513 and R645-731.511.4. Canyon Fuel has received an approval from MSHA to store water in the old Gilson West Mine. The Gilson seam is a closed system and does not discharge to the surface. The permittee states, "Adding relatively small volumes of surface runoff water will not cause a disturbance in the hydrologic balance in the permit area". When the sediment pond is pumped, samples will be taken before pumping begins and will be tested using Table 6 of the Division's approved Soil and Overburden Handling Guidelines. This will be done to eliminate the potential of a hazardous substance entering the Gilson seam.

The permittee will pump approximately 651,657 gallons of water into the Gilson West Mine during clean out of the sediment pond. The permittee has stated on Page 7-79 that the only UPDES effluent limitation that should be exceeded will be the amount of total suspended solids. The Gilson West Mine is a closed system, and would not affect the hydrologic balance. There is no reason for the Division not to grant approval for exceeding the total suspended solids limitations as permitted in R645-301-731.511.3.

Findings:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements of this section of the R645 Coal Rules.

RECOMMENDATION:

The permittee has met the minimum requirements for pumping water into an underground coal mine. Therefore, this amendment is recommended for approval.