

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

September 2, 2005

TO: Internal File

FROM: Priscilla W. Burton, Environmental Scientist III/Soils, Team Lead

RE: Topsoil Information, Degasification Wells G-7, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC., Dugout Canyon Mine, C/007/039, Task ID #2287

SUMMARY:

Attachment 2-1 of the Degas Well Volume of the MRP contains baseline survey information gathered from the sites. This information, received on May 19, 2005, details the baseline information for well site G-7 that was inaccessible prior to drilling.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

SOILS RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.21; 30 CFR 817.22; 30 CFR 817.200(c); 30 CFR 823; R645-301-220; R645-301-411.

Analysis:

Appendix 2-2 of the MRP provides a general outlook on the soils of the Book Cliffs in the vicinity of the Dugout Mine. Figure 1-1 and Plate 1-4 shows the location of the degas wells.

The specific soils information for degasification well sites G-2 through G-13 is found in Attachment 2-1 of the Methane Degasification Amendment of the MRP. (Site G-1 was not developed.)

TECHNICAL MEMO

As with previous degas wells, the Permittee sampled the topsoil at sites G-7 at the time of disturbance, to collect baseline soil chemistry information to be included in Attachment 2-1. The following parameters were sampled during soil salvage: texture (particle size analysis), pH, Electrical Conductivity, Sodium Adsorption Ratio, percent CaCO₃, plant available Nitrogen, Potassium, and Phosphorus (Section 243). Also provided were a description and photographs of the site.

Sites G-3, G-7, G-10 are classified as Typic Argiustoll soil type (in the Beje-Trag complex map unit in the 1988 Soil Survey of Carbon County Utah).

Sites G-4, G-5, G-6, and G-9 are classified as Pachic Argicryoll soil type (the Midfork-Commodore complex map unit in the 1988 Carbon Co. Soil Survey).

Sites G-8 is classified as Typic Ustorhenth soil type (Croydon Loam in the 1988 Soil Survey of Carbon County, Utah, see Section 222.200 and Attachment 2-1).

The sites are located at approximately 8,000 ft (see Fig 1-1 and Plate 1.4). The site descriptions, drawings, and photographs are in Attachment 2-1. Some of the sites were previously disturbed by logging (Table 3-1, pg 3-16, Attachment 2-1 section 4.3). Soil sample analyses are found in Attachment 2-1.

Findings:

The information provided meets the requirements of the Regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adequate baseline information has been received for site G-7. The Permittee has indicated that the topsoil stockpile will be surveyed and as built volumes will be provided as they are obtained.

The application is recommended for approval.