

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

December 21, 2005

TO: Internal File

THRU: Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor

FROM: David W. Darby, Environmental Scientist III/Hydrologist/Lead

RE: Removal of Dewatering Device in Sediment Pond, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC., Dugout Canyon Mine, C/007/0039, Task ID #2288

SUMMARY:

Canyon Fuel Company submitted an amendment to the Dugout Canyon Mine Plan on July 21, 2005 to remove the decant valve in the sediment pond.

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:

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Water-Quality Standards And Effluent Limitations

The Permittee meets the regulatory requirements of this section, because there will be no change to the overflow discharge from the sedimentation pond. Pond decanting will only take place when the pond contains water and has to be cleaned. The method of decanting will change from a valve system to a pump system. Pond water will be monitored prior to discharge. Discharged water will meet water quality standards under the UPDES permit.

Sediment Control Measures

The information submitted by the Permittee conforms to the requirements of the regulations. The Permittee has installed a sediment trap to reduce the amount of sediment reaching the pond. A ramped concrete pond has been constructed in line with the disturbed area diversion ditch adjacent to the coal loadout. The coal fines that are usually deposited in the sedimentation pond will collect in the sediment trap. The trap is easy to clean, and the coal fines can be reclaimed. The trap will reduce the cleaning frequency of the sedimentation pond.

The Permittee removed the decant valve, because of maintenance problems. The Permittee will use a pump to dewater the pond instead. Decanting the pond is not a frequent event. Using a portable pump is a satisfactory method of dewatering the pond. All regulatory requirements will be met.

Findings:

The information addresses the requirements of the Operation Plan – Hydrologic Information Section of the regulations.

RECOMMENDATION:

The submittal meets the minimum regulatory requirements and it should be approved.