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Mine file
PR0/007/041 #2

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: JULY 14, 1998

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO:

NAME: BOB DAVIDSON

COMPANY:

FACSIMILE NUMBER: 359-3940

FROM: JOHN SEMBORSKI

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 4

The topsoil stockpiles are adjacent to the public access road, as requested by the USFS. The annual and perennial plants that were used to stabilize the topsoil stockpiles for interim reclamation are contained in the seed mixture described in Section 3.30 of Chapter 3.

The topsoil piles were inventoried to attempt to determine the disposition of distribution of topsoil and subsoil. All three storage areas appeared to be made up of similar material with no distinct change in color and/or texture which might distinguish subsoil or topsoil placement. The inventory consisted of minor probing and ocular estimates of the surface only. Due to the well established vegetation and the stability of the piles of soil, a more extensive inventory would serve no purpose other than to damage the integrity of the storage sites.

The pedogenic process will become somewhat restricted for the soils stored in the topsoil stockpiles. The physio-chemical changes that may occur include nitrogen loss, loss of micro biological life forms, the existence of anaerobic conditions within the deeper portions of the stockpiles, and structural breakdown of the soils. These changes will be minimized by avoiding compaction during stockpile construction and by segregating the individual soil units where practical.

The topsoil and subsoil soil from the culvert expansion area was salvaged from 0.23 acres on the south slope bench area, 0.25 acres of the south slope of the hillside adjacent to the coal pile, 0.11 acres down from the warehouse (identified as the north slope on Figure 8B) and the area of the sediment pond and temporary road. (Refer to Figure 8B). In additional, two new, separate areas were identified in the southwest corner of the mine yard expansion area. This area is identified as Map Unit D on Figure 8B and consists of approximately 0.28 acres. Immediately east and contiguous to Unit D is a rocky point that was recontoured during the yard expansion. (This area is identified as Map Unit E on Figure 8B.) Topsoil was also removed from this point but as this work was done after most of the topsoil recovery was finished, this volume of material was not included in the soil report prepared by Pat Johnston, the soil consultant who supervised and monitored the topsoil recovery and stockpiling operations during the yard expansion operations. Nielson Construction Project Manager Mark Greenhaulgh oversaw the topsoil removal and stockpiling from this particular area. Approximately 108 cubic yards of topsoil was removed and stockpiled at stockpile #4 from this nose cut area.

No topsoil or substitute topsoil materials was salvaged from the 1.10 acres associated with the stream or streambank or the 1.53 acres of steep slope area on the southern flank of the stream. To preserve the alluvial and residual soils and stream channel in this area, GENWAL proposes covering the insitu stream area with a geotextile fabric prior to placing any backfill during construction. Similarly on the steep slope area to the south of the stream bank a geotextile fabric will be placed on the surface before placing any backfill material. In the two areas of soil removal, soil material will be salvaged and stockpiled.

After the lower pad of the Expansion Area was completed to finish grade, the permanent coal storage area was prepared. Approximately 12" of topsoil material was removed from area C, a small

area (0.25 acres) of the adjacent slope near the location where the southern flank of the coalpile rests against the existing hillside. This topsoil was salvaged under the direction of Pat Johnston, soils scientist, to assure optimum recovery of the soil resource in this area. The soil was stockpiled at topsoil stockpile #4 for storage until it is utilized during final reclamation. Between all salvage areas, about 3,880 cubic yards of topsoil was collected and stockpiled at stockpile #4 for final reclamation. This amount exceeded the original projection of 3,480 cubic yards by 400 cubic yards.

During coal storage and stockpiling activities, coal was pushed up beyond area C onto an area where topsoil has not been stripped. Since this area will be disturbed in the future during phase 2 of the mine site surface expansion, the topsoil will be recovered following approval of phase 2 plans. During phase 2, three portals will be established on the south slope of the mine yard. The portal directly south of the coal stockpile will be the beltline portal. Coal will be conveyed out of this portal and onto the coal stockpile. Two other portals, one for ventilation and one for personnel and supplies will be established to the west of the belt portal. Prior to construction of the portals, available salvagable topsoil material will be removed from the area to be disturbed and stockpiled. At this time, the coal will be removed from the slope south of the stockpile area where soil materials have been covered with coal and any remaining coal fines will be vacuumed off the surface. This work is expected to take place after the phase 2 expansion plans have been approved and the design work has been completed, projected to be mid-1999. Prior to soil salvaging, a intensive soil inventory and site investigation will be performed on that area of future, proposed disturbance.

Plate 5-3 depicts that area of the south slope where topsoil will be protected intact prior to topsoil salvage during phase 2 expansion in mid-1999. Marker posts will be placed around this area to serve as a visual aid for equipment operators to help prevent the coal pile from encroaching onto any previously undisturbed topsoil areas. However, if emergency conditions warrant, geotextile fabric will be utilized to protect the existing topsoil from additional coal storage disturbance.

Plate 5-3 also shows the cut slope disturbance in the southwest portion of the mine yard. The as-built configuration for this portion of the mine yard has been revised. A side canyon drainage channel conveying undisturbed area drainages to the main Crandall Creek drainage forms the western boundary of the mine yard in this area. Rip rap was added to this channel to increase the integrity of the channel and to prevent erosion of the channel. The east side of the channel is bermed and riprapped to prevent undisturbed area drainage from entering the mine yard area. The same rip rap specifications used for the main undisturbed drainage inlet culvert and headwall were also used for armoring the side channel. This should provide the same degree of protection from erosion for the headwall inlet and the adjacent undisturbed channel.

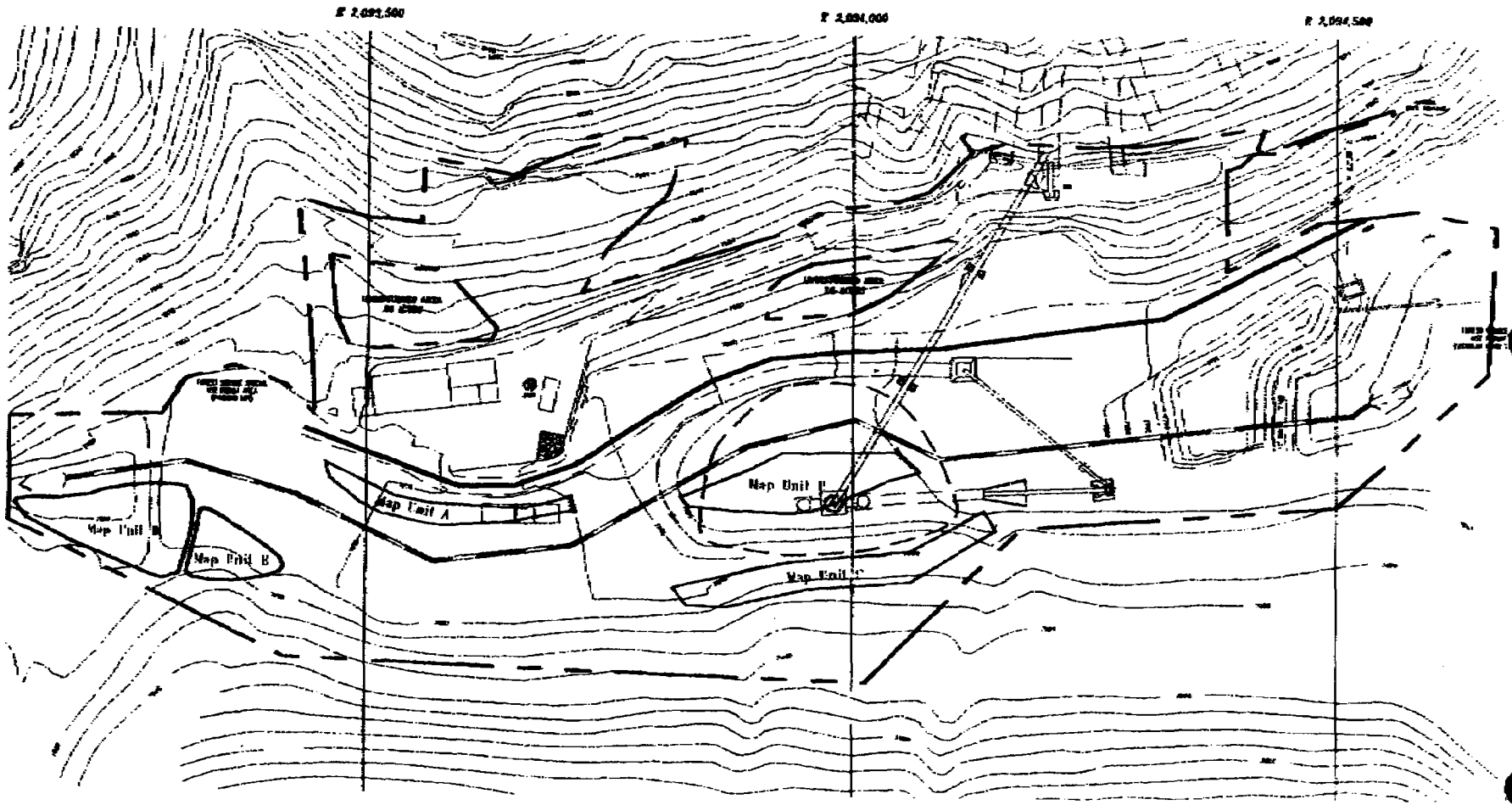

FIGURE 8B

SOIL SALVAGE AREAS

SOIL SALVAGE AREAS

		Acreage	Volume	Av. Depth
Map Unit A	(N. Slope Area)	0.11 ac	180 cu. yd.	2 ft.
Map Unit B	(S. Slope Bench Area)	0.23 ac	1,728 cu. yd.	4 ft.
Map Unit C	(Coal Pile Area)	0.25 ac		<1 ft.
Map Unit D	(SW corner of mine yard)	0.28 ac	1,872 cu. yd.	4 ft.
Map Unit E	(Nose cut area)	0.11 ac	108 cu. yd.	0.6 ft.