



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

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February 5, 1999

TO: File
THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DH*
FROM: Wayne H. Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist *WHW*
RE: West Ridge Waste Rock Disposal Site, West Ridge Resources, Inc. West Ridge Mine, PRO/007/041-98-1, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

OPERATION PLAN

Spoil and Waste Materials

Coal Mine Waste

Analysis:

The Applicant does not anticipate that any coal mine waste will be generated at the mine site. Coal mine waste is defined as coal process waste and underground development waste. Since the Applicant will not process coal at the mine site, no coal processing waste will be created. The Applicant does not anticipate that any underground development waste will be brought to the surface. If any underground development waste is generated then it will be stored underground.

If underground development waste is brought to the surface then the Applicant will store it at one of two surface locations. The Applicant will ship the coal mine waste to a disposal facility after 12 cubic yards of material have accumulated or after the material has been stored for six months whichever comes first.

The Applicant will ship the coal mine waste to the disposal facility either at the Wildcat Loadout or at ECDC. The Wildcat facility has not yet been approved to receive coal mine waste from West Ridge. Both the Division and the Applicant expect that Wildcat will soon be permitted to receive coal mine waste from West Ridge.

The ECDC facility is not permitted by the Division to receive underground coal mine waste. ECDC is permitted and bonded by the State to dispose of hazardous waste. Material

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disposed at the ECDC facility will be placed in a lined cell so that leachate will not adversely effect surface and groundwater, will be stable, not adversely effect the postmining land use, not create a public hazard and prevent combustion.

The Utah Coal Rules do not specially state that underground mine development waste can be shipped to a State approved hazardous waste disposal facility. R645-301-536.500 does allow underground coal mine waste to be shipped offsite to an approved waste disposal site.

R645-100 defines a permit area as:

“Permit Area” means the area of land, indicated on the approved map submitted by the operator with his or her application required to be covered by the operator’s performance bond under R645-301-800 and which will include the area of land upon which the operator purposes to conduct coal mining and reclamation operations under the permit, including all disturbed areas, **provided that areas adequately bonded under another valid permit may be excluded from the permit area.**

Since the ECDC facility is permitted and bonded to accept hazardous waste material the Division will allow the Applicant to dispose of underground mine development waste at that facility even though the ECDC facility is not in the permit area.

Findings:

The Applicant met the minimum requirements of this section.

cc: Bob Davidson
Paul Baker

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