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

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March 2, 1999

Jean Semborski, Environmental Coordinator
West Ridge Resources, Inc.
6750 Airport Road
P. O. Box 902
Price, Utah 84501

Re: Approval of West Ridge Mine Permit Application Package, West Ridge Resources, Inc., West Ridge Mine, PRO/007/041-98-1, Folder #3, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Ms. Semborski:

The Division has completed a review of the West Ridge Mine Application Package including all materials submitted as of this date. A Technical Analysis (TA) and Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment (CHIA) have been completed (enclosed) and the Division has determined that the PAP adequately meets the technical requirements of the Utah program which have been delegated by the Cooperative Agreement between OSM and Utah. Based upon the entire record, the Division finds the PAP to be in compliance with the Program and state law and regulations.

The Division is now in the process of completing our Decision Package which we will forward to OSM for its concurrence and Federal Mine Plan approval. Before West Ridge Resources, Inc. may conduct coal development or mining operations on the Federal lease, it must obtain Secretarial approval of the mining plan and also obtain OSM approval for the experimental practice outlined in the application. We are currently working closely with OSM to obtain both of these approvals. Before issuance of the permit, West Ridge Resources, Inc. must post an acceptable reclamation surety with the Division. The Division has determined that the reclamation bond must be in amount of no less than $2,117,000. Please submit the required reclamation agreement and bond as quickly as possible.

At this time you should also submit clean copies of your application with the redline/strikeout removed. Five copies are required. As a reminder there were some minor inconsistencies in the plan that you agreed to correct when submitting the clean copies. They are found on the following pages; pp. 5-24, 5-25, 5-40, 5-45 and 5-35 (made consistent), 7-32, appendix 5-3 pp. 23 and 26. In addition, the UPDES permit will need to be submitted within the

File in:
C/007/041, 1999, Outgoing
Refer to:
❑ Confidential
❑ Shelf
X Expandable
Date 030299 For additional information

plan. Thank you for your efforts in completing these requirements.

Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Wright
Associate Director, Mining

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Enclosures: TA & CHIA
cc: D. Haddock
R. Davidson
P. Hess
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