

4007/041 Incoming



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Jeff Studenka, Environmental Scientist  
UPDES IES Section  
Utah Division of Water Quality  
195 North 1950 West  
P.O. Box 144870  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870

August 4, 2010

Attn: Jeff Studenka, Environmental Scientist  
UPDES IES Section

Re: West Ridge Mine  
UPDES Permit No. UT0025640  
Inspection Report Response

Dear Mr. Studenka:

This letter is written in response to the "Requirements and Corrective Actions" section of your inspection report of July 19, 2010, regarding the coal fines accumulations in the C Canyon drainage below the West Ridge mine.

- 1) On July 15 (the day following your inspection), I ordered the necessary pumps and mixing apparatus required for the injection of the floc system to be used in the cleanup. The assumption is that we will clean up the channel in the same manner as was done previously in the summer of 2009.
- 2) Also on July 15, I met with BLM to verify the validity of the status of the existing right-of-way for the re-construction of Catchments C and E, on the assumption that this action would be forthcoming. It was determined that the right-of-way is still current and the necessary authority is in place to re-construct the catchments as needed.
- 3) On July 19, I instructed Scamp Excavation to begin moving in the necessary heavy equipment and supplies to begin the re-construction of Catchments C and E. The bypass pipes and filter boxes had been stored in their supply yard from the previous cleanup efforts, and have been moved to the site.
- 4) On July 21, DOGM issued citation 10063 for the accumulations, requiring an amendment to the MRP to, among other things, include catchments C and E in the West Ridge Mining and

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Reclamation Permit. Given this new requirement, I put a hold on Scamp's re-construction efforts until such time as the DOGM permitting action is completed.

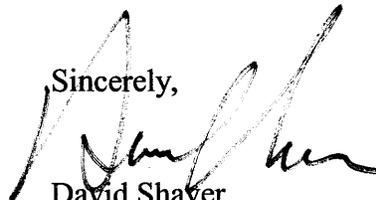
5) On July 26, I applied to Division of Water Rights for an extension of the Stream Alteration Permit 09-91-02SA used during last summer's cleanup. On July 27, Div. Water Rights issued an Emergency Authorization for construction of the catchments. Re-authorization of 09-91-02SA is currently being processed.

6) On August 2, I submitted to DOGM an amendment to the MRP to include Catchments C and E in the West Ridge MRP. DOGM is currently reviewing the application.

I will be on vacation during the week of August 8. The floc chemical pumps and mixing equipment are scheduled to arrive on Tuesday, August 10. Assuming the DOGM permit is approved during that week, the construction and cleanup crews are scheduled to be able to start work immediately during the week of August 16. The DOGM citation requires completed abatement measures by September 29, 2010.

Regarding the efforts being made underground to remedy the discharge problem, I have requested that the mine managers respond directly to your office as a separate submittal.

If you have questions or comments please contact me at (435) 888-4017.

Sincerely,  
  
David Shaver  
Resident Agent

cc: Daron Haddock, DOGM