



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

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March 21, 1994

TO: File

FROM: Henry Sauer, Senior Reclamation Soils Specialist *HS*

RE: Response to Reconfiguration Plan for J.B. King Mine (Submitted February 18, 1994), Western States Minerals Corporation, J.B. King Mine, ACT/015/002, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

The permittee has submitted (received February 18, 1994) a proposal for the partial reclamation of the mine site. The 1994 reclamation proposal stems from the abatement requirements set forth in violations N91-32-6-1, N93-25-3-1, N93-25-5-1.

ANALYSIS

The formulation of specific soil/spoil handling plans will be based on the results of analyses conducted on the following materials: borrow material (i.e. rock mulch and associated fines); digested sewage sludge; material excavated from the main feeder ditch. Therefore, specific soil/spoil handling plans can not be approved until the Division and the permittee thoroughly review the physiochemical data obtained from the above sampling.

Regardless of the interpretive tools used by the permittee to access the "average" physiochemical characteristics of the refuse material within the refuse pile, the permittee must submit laboratory data as received.

This writer recommends that the permittee be granted a variance from the permit requirement of four feet of cover on the test plot portion of the refuse pile (R645-301-553.250). However, all other material which is identified as coal waste or acid- and/or toxic-forming material must be covered with at least four feet of suitable, noncombustible, nonacid-forming, nontoxic material. Currently, the test plots are relatively flat and are cover with soil. Various soil cover treatments are represented within the test plots and are as follows: zero, six, twelve, and twenty four inches over coal refuse. If the permittee was



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required to place additional soil on the plots so that the four foot cover standard was attained, then the surface drainage would trend towards the outslopes of the refuse pile. This is contrary to the requirements of R645-301-746.212

RECOMMENDATIONS

This writer recommends that the permittee be granted a variance from the permit requirement of four feet of cover on the test plot portion of the refuse pile (R645-301-553.250).

As soon as possible the permittee must submit, as received, all physiochemical laboratory data.

CC: Pam Grubaugh-Littig  
Tom Munson  
Susan White