



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

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December 7, 1994

TO: File

FROM: Jess Kelley, Reclamation Engineer JK #A

RE: Amount of Phase II Bond Release, Mountain Coal Company, Huntington #4 Mine, ACT/015/004, Folder No. 4, Emery County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

The permittee, Mountain Coal Company, has applied for Phase II bond release for this site. This memorandum presents this writer's recommendation as to how much of the reclamation bond should be released and how much should be retained.

ANALYSIS

R645-301-880.320 states that a portion of the reclamation bond may be released when it is determined that vegetation has been reestablished on a site and defines Phase II of reclamation as the reestablishment of vegetation. This regulation also states that it is the Division that must determine the size of this portion and requires that the Division "retain that amount of bond for the revegetated area which would be sufficient to cover the cost of reestablishing revegetation [sic] if completed by a third party . . ." In accordance with this regulation, therefore, this writer makes the determination which follows.

Complete revegetation of the site would require 1) reseeding, and 2) mulching. The costs of these operations are as follows:

Reseeding

Hydroseeding (from Means<sup>®</sup> 1994 *Heavy Construction Cost Data*, Category 029 308 5400)--\$575 per acre

Seed Mix (from Division Biologist Susan White)--\$350 per acre

Power Mulching (from Means<sup>®</sup> 1994 *Heavy Construction Cost Data*, Category 029 516 0350)--\$893 per acre

Thus, the revegetation cost is \$1,818 per acre. Since the total disturbed area is 25.2 acres, the total revegetation cost for the entire site is \$45,814, in 1994 dollars. And since the annual escalation rate is now 2.01%, that cost can be expected to escalate to \$46,734 in the year which remains in the 10-year reclamation period. \$46,734 is thus the amount of the bond which should be retained.

### FINDINGS

The sum of \$144,041 is left in the reclamation bond. \$46,734 of this sum should be retained and \$97,307 should be released upon Division approval of Phase II of reclamation.

cc: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Daron Haddock  
H4PHIBND.MEM