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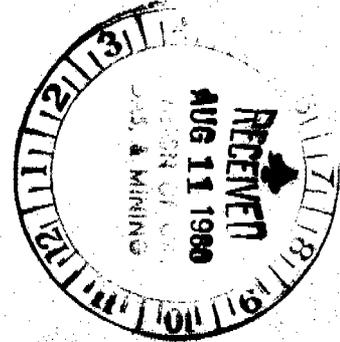
Soldier Creek Coal Company
HIDDEN VALLEY MINE

Telephone 801 - 637-4429

P.O. Box AS
Price, Utah 84501 *

August 7, 1980

Mr. James W. Smith, Jr.
Coordinator of Mined Land Development
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116



Re: B Seam Bench-Cut
Soldier Creek Coal Company
Hidden Valley Mine
ACT/015/022

Dear Mr. Smith:

Lee Spencer has indicated that additional information regarding the B Seam bench-cut must be submitted prior to granting construction approval. A description of the techniques to be used for the reclamation of the B Seam bench-cut is as follows:

A plan view of the portal area and a typical portal reclamation profile are enclosed. Please note that the B Seam bench-cut is shown as a runoff diversion. Initially the drainage will not be diverted but will be contained in the sedimentation pond. If at some later time this diversion is necessary, the appropriate information will be submitted to the Division for their approval.

Final reclamation will begin shortly after all mining operations cease. The expected life of Hidden Valley Mine is forty years.

Backfilling and grading work within the portal area will begin after all structures in the area have been removed and the mine portals are permanently sealed. Adequate quantities of backfill material are available in the immediate vicinity. Information regarding topsoil protection is explained in a letter submitted to the Division on June 18, 1980.

Removal of the 48 inch culvert in the portal area will provide initial backfill material. Additional material will be removed from this general vicinity forming a dished out effect.

All backfill material will be transported, placed, and compacted. The average slope of the material will not exceed 1v:2h. At no time will acid- and toxic-forming materials or debris be used in backfilling operations. Also, in order to conserve soil moisture, insure stability, and control erosion on backfilled material, cut-and-fill terraces will be utilized as shown in the typical profile.

All backfilling and grading operations within the portal area will be revegetated in accordance to an approved revegetation plan. All reclaimed areas will be compatible to the natural surroundings and in no way adversely affect postmining land use.

It is the professional opinion of myself, following field observations, that the proposed B Seam bench-cut will have a safety factor of 1.50 or greater. Also, the material proposed for backfilling operations, when placed and compacted in slopes not exceeding 1v:2h, will have a safety factor greater than 1.30.

Approval as quickly as possible of the B Seam bench-cut would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

SOLDIER CREEK COAL COMPANY
Hidden Valley Mine

J. T. Paluso

J. T. Paluso
Project Engineer

JTP:kbb
Enclosure



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Review
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