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M E M O R A N D U M
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TO: Ronald W. Daniels, Coordinator of Mined Land Development
FROM: Mary Ann Wright, Reclamation Biologist
SUBJECT: Hidden Valley Mine
ACT/015/022
DATE: January 21, 1980

I have reviewed the Mining and Reclamation Plan for Hidden Valley Mine to see if it meets Interim Program requirements for Vegetation and Revegetation. Following are comments on each.

Vegetation: The baseline data for percent ground cover is adequate for approval of the Mining and Reclamation Plan under the Interim Regulatory Program.

Revegetation: Soldier Creek Coal Company has committed to achieving reclamation of the site in accordance with applicable laws and regulations to achieve the post mining land use of limited wildlife and cattle grazing. The company personnel have familiarized themselves with applicable revegetation studies and have stated plans to further utilize both the expertise gained from interim revegetation and "all practical methods and technology generally accepted at the time of reclamation".

As the mine plan is updated each five years, the intent for proper re-vegetation can continue to be evaluated. I therefore find the revegetation and amendments thereof to be adequate for approval of the Mining and Reclamation Plan under the Interim Regulatory Program.

MAW/te