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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangarter

Governor

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355 West North Temple

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

801-538-5340

March 8, 1991

**CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT**  
**P 074 979 035**

Mr. Robert Hagen, Director  
Office of Surface Mining  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
Suite 310, Silver Square  
625 Silver Avenue, S.W.  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Mr. Hagen:

Re: Response to Ten-Day Letter (TDL) #X91-02-370-002 TV1, Hidden Valley Coal Company, Hidden Valley Mine, ACT/015/017, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

This letter responds to the above-referenced Ten-Day Letter (TDL), the certified copy of which was received at the Division Offices on February 19, 1991.

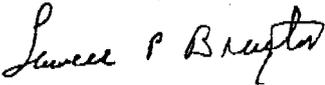
Number 1 of 1 reads: Failure to make a written demonstration addressing the required criteria to eliminate highwalls to the maximum extent technically practical. All highwalls and lands upon which spoil has been placed on the permitted area. (R614-301-553.520)

Division Response: At the time of Phase I Bond Release (1988), the bench above the "A" seam had been eliminated (Division photo documentation). A high intensity storm, after reclamation was completed, caused erosion damage to the fill slopes, especially at the "A" seam. The entire fill slope was regraded, reseeded, and covered with erosion matting to protect the surface of the silty topsoil. The benches were cleaned to increase their capacity and graded to divert all the flows away from the fill slopes. After the benches were improved in 1989, the runoff from a second high intensity storm in 1990 was handled by the bench diversion and the fill slopes were protected from the erosive force of overland flows. Reclaimed slopes must be

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TDL Response  
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protected from the force of overland flows and I believe the modification to the permit and subsequent construction has accomplished this. If these bench diversions are removed, some other diversion system must be constructed to protect the fill slopes. I believe the present configuration is the preferred alternative.

Sincerely,

  
Lowell P. Braxton  
Associate Director, Mining

PGL/jbe  
cc: P. Grubaugh-Littig  
AT015017.002

P 074 970 035

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ROBERT HAGEN DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
SUITE 310 SILVER SQUARE  
625 SILVER AVENUE S W  
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

DOGM

JBE

ACT/015/017 X91-02-370-002 TV1

ACT/015/017

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PS Form 3800, June 1985

DOGM JBE ACT/015/017 X91-02-370-002 TV1

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3. Article Addressed to:  
ROBERT HAGEN DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT  
SUITE 310 SILVER SQUARE  
625 SILVER AVENUE S W  
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

4. Article Number  
P 074 979 035

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X *Robert Hagen*

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