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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

## Division of Oil Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

ck

June 25, 2007

Timothy D. Kirschbaum  
Environmental Engineer  
Consolidation Coal Company  
P.O. Box 566  
Sesser, IL 62884

Subject: Conditional Approval of Modification Change To Minor Exploration Permit,  
Consolidation Coal Company, Hidden Valley Mine, C/015/007, Task ID #2815,  
Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Kirschbaum:

The above-referenced amendment of the minor coal exploration permit is conditionally approved upon receipt of four clean copies of the complete minor coal exploration permit, including the approved modifications you requested. Please submit these copies by July 23, 2007. Once we receive these copies, final approval will be granted.

A stamped incorporated copy of the minor coal exploration permit will also be returned to you at that time. A copy of the complete minor coal exploration permit will be kept of file for future reference. A copy of our Technical Analysis is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5268 or Karl R. Houskeeper at (435) 613-1146, ext 201.

Sincerely,

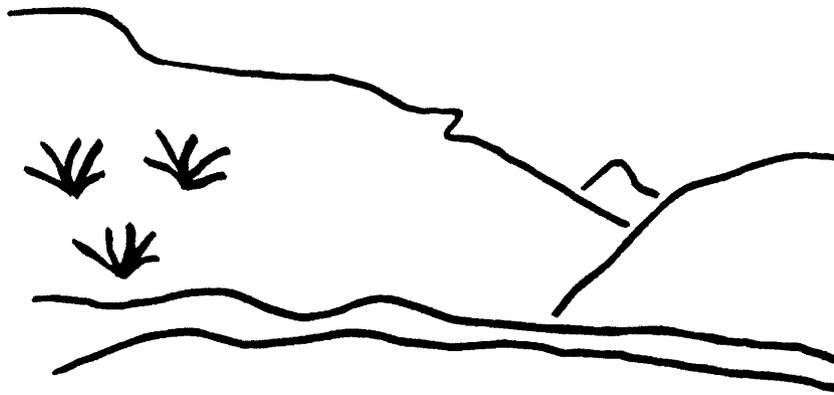
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela Grubaugh-Littig".

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Permit Supervisor

KRH/sd  
Enclosure  
cc: Price Field Office  
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# State of Utah



## Utah Oil Gas and Mining

### Coal Regulatory Program

Hidden Valley Mine Property  
Notice Of Intent To Conduct Minor Coal Exploration  
(Revision Requested, June 19, 2006)  
C/015/007  
Task ID #2815  
Minor Exploration Analysis and Findings  
June 25, 2007

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INTRODUCTION

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## EXPLORATION TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

### INTRODUCTION

The original notice of intent to conduct minor coal exploration on the Hidden Valley property was dated June 2006, and then revised August 2006. This document indicated under section **240. Reclamation Standards** "Upon completion of down-hole procedures, each drill hole will be sealed with cement from the bottom of the hole to ground level. A brass monument marker will be placed in the top of the cement surface plug with the drill-hole number. All holes will be sealed and the associated disturbed areas reclaimed within two weeks of completion."

This revision dated June 19, 2007 requests that the holes drilled (HV-06-01, HV-06-02 and HV-06-03) be allowed to remain open until March of 2008. The revision now states "As of the March 2008 date, the holes must be submitted as part of a groundwater monitoring plan within a pending or approved mining and reclamation plan or sealed with cement from bottom to top or other sealing methods approved by the Division." for holes remaining open to collect baseline water data.

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## COMPLIANCE DUTIES

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## COMPLIANCE DUTIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202.

## RECLAMATION STANDARDS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 772.13; R645-202-200.

### Analysis:

#### Boreholes

Consol letter dated June 19, 2007 requested that the holes already drilled (HV-06-01, HV-06-02 and HV-06-03) be allowed to remain open until March of 2008. The requested revision states "As of the March 2008 date, the holes must be submitted as part of a groundwater monitoring plan within a pending or approved mining and reclamation plan or sealed with cement from bottom to top or other sealing methods approved by the Division."

### Findings:

The requested revision should be allowed to provide adequate time to evaluate the resources. The commitment in the reclamation standards section indicates that the holes that have been drilled has a determined date (March 2008) to either include the holes into the mining and reclamation plan or to reclaim the holes. Task ID #2815 should be approved upon condition that the complete Minor Exploration Permit with the requested changes be submitted to the Division so that the most recent submittal will be used for future references.