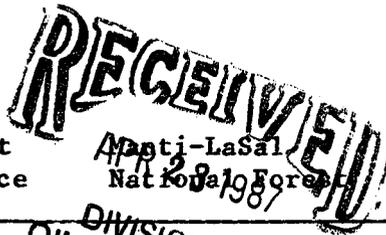


United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service



599 West Price River Dr.  
Price, Utah 84501

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Reply to: 2820

Date: April 8, 1987

Richard M. Holbrook  
OSM - Reclamation & Enforcement  
Brooks Towers  
1020 15th Street  
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Rick:

We have reviewed Trail Mountain Coal Company's Trail Mountain Mine, Tract 2 PAP revisions submitted on March 27, 1987, and the March 2, 1987, draft Technical Analysis prepared by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

The Manti-LaSal National Forest prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for Emergency Coal Lease U-49332 in 1982 (enclosed) which covers the Tract 2 area. Forest Service Stipulations outlined in the EA were incorporated into the subject lease issued by the Bureau of Land Management on March 1, 1983.

The PAP is generally in compliance with Forest Service lease stipulations. The provisions of stipulation #6 have been met by reconstruction of the Cottonwood Canyon Road (FDR #50040). The Manti-LaSal National Forest consents to approval of the PAP subject to the following conditions:

1. Section 7.1.6. Groundwater Monitoring Plan, Page 9
  - a. This section states that springs T-10, T-14 and T-14a will be monitored to determine if mining activities will affect springs in the immediate vicinity of the mine. This monitoring is planned in accordance with the surface water baseline schedule and parameters as established by DOGM (Appendix 7-3). According to the guidelines, baseline monitoring is conducted for only two years (one complete year of data before submission of PAP). The springs must also be monitored on an annual basis, once mining in the area begins, to determine if there are any affects to flow from mining. The monitoring plan must be modified to include annual monitoring of these springs.

- b. Springs T-15, T-16 and T-6 have been developed by the Forest Service for livestock and wildlife watering. These springs have been identified for baseline monitoring only. Due to the vicinity of the springs relative to the mine area, they could be affected by subsidence. They must be included in annual monitoring as discussed above. In addition, Forest records show that there is another spring within the Tract 2 area which has not been identified by Trail Mountain Mining Company. This spring lies along the north end of the Tract 2 area and has been developed with a trough. This spring must be included in the spring inventory and monitoring program.

2. Section 7.1.3.1. Water Supply. Page 6

Water rights have been filed by the Forest Service for several of the springs identified in the spring inventory. The water rights were filed in regard to adjudication of water rights in the San Rafael River by the State of Utah. The statement in this section, that no water rights exist within the Tract 2 Mine Plan and adjacent areas, needs to be revised and the water right claims listed.

Stipulations discussed in the EA and included in the lease must be adhered to throughout the life of operations. Any proposed surface-disturbing activities within the Tract 2 area will require an Environmental Analysis and consent by the Forest Service.

Sincerely,

/s/ William H. Boley

for  
REED C. CHRISTENSEN  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure