



0014

STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

file ACT/015/009 #2

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

August 21, 1987

TO: John Whitehead, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Dan Duce, Reclamation Soils Specialist *DD*

RE: Special Conditions No. 1 for Trail Mountain Tract 1 and Tract 2, Trail Mountain Coal Company, Trail Mountain Mine, ACT/015/009, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

The plan submitted on June 15, 1987 for sampling the regraded surface of the mine site to confirm salinity values do not exceed the values outlined in OSM's Condition #1 is approved. Condition #1 specified that the surface 6 inches is to be 8 mmhos/cm or less and the underlying 18 inches of soil is to be less than 17 mmhos/cm.

The resampling plan is to sample the entire disturbed area on 100-foot grid intervals. At each sampling location, soils will be collected at two depths, 6 inches and 18 inches; these samples will be analyzed for Ec. If the Ec values exceed the above limits, additional sampling may be accomplished to locate the extent of the area so that mitigation can occur.

Baseline analysis indicated that 15 samples had Ec value which exceeded 8 mmhos/cm and 7 samples had SAR values which exceeded 12. Although SAR was high, the physical problems associated with high SAR's should not become a problem. The soils are fairly coarse textured with low saturation percentages which will reduce soil sealing because of clay dispersion and the high salinity of the material will also greatly reduce clay dispersion and subsequent physical problems.

The high salinity of the road and pad areas are most likely due to the accumulation of salts through the use of road salts. The inherent undisturbed soils are only slightly saline. They are derived from alluvium and coluvium from sandstones and are only slightly weathered.

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