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file

TO: John Whitehead, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Brent Stettler, Reclamation Biologist *Brent*

RE: Response to Recompiled Mine Plan Comments and Mid-Term Review, Beaver Creek Coal Company, Trail Mountain Mine, ACT/015/009, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Recompiled Mine Plan

The operator responded to all recompiled mine plan comments. However, to eliminate possible confusion regarding the status of reference areas, I recommend that section 9.3.8 text in the PAP (pages 9-35 and 9-36) be replaced with the following:

Two vegetation communities were assigned reference areas. These have been permanently marked, and are shown on Map A, Appendix 9-1. The riparian reference area represents the pre-disturbance condition of the parking area, coal loading facilities, and mine buildings area. The grassland-shrub reference area represents the pre-mining grassland-shrub community--part of which still exists above the mine mouth. Both reference areas were sampled quantitatively. Data are included in Vegetation Resources, Chapter Nine.

Section 9.2.3 (page 9-2) states that reference area locations "...are marked on the vegetation map." The vegetation map should be identified as Map A, Appendix 9-1.

Mid-Term Review

The last remaining midterm issue involved the revision of Figure 10-A. Figure 3-16 was submitted, replacing Figure 10-A. Still needed is a reference to Figure 3-16 in the section on contemporaneous reclamation (section 3.5.1, page 3-49), directing a reader to the figure.

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