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State of Utah

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DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 28, 1990

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Susan M. White, Reclamation Biologist *SMW*

RE: Culvert Extension, Beaver Creek Coal Company, Trail Mountain #9 Mine, ACT/015/009, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Synopsis and Analysis

Trail Mountain #9 Mine has requested a culvert extension of approximately 300 feet for Cottonwood Creek. No fisheries exist within Cottonwood Creek.

The following items should be addressed prior to the culvert extension approval.

Postmining contour maps (of sufficient scale) must be submitted in order to access vegetation potential.

A raptor survey must be completed prior to disturbance. The survey must include any observations of stick nests or cavity nests in trees which are to be removed. Figure 10-2 in the Permit Application Package (PAP) indicates several Kestral sightings (cavity nester) in the vicinity of the proposed disturbance.

The success standard for tree and shrub density of the riparian area is unclear. Success standards must be stated.

Shrub transplant stocking rates for revegetation of the riparian area must be clearly stated. The operator must also commit to transplanting 100 ten-gallon and 25 twenty-five gallon Cottonwood trees per acre in the riparian area. A minimal irrigation program must be prepared for the first year after planting (i.e., several gallons of water per tree three times during the summer season).

Page 2
Memo to P. Grubaugh-Littig
ACT/015/009
September 28, 1990

The test plots must have soil samples taken prior to removal. The sampling plan was outlined and discussed with Mr. Patrick Collins (Beaver Creek consultant).

Recommendation

The above comments must be adequately addressed prior to construction.

djh
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