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March 3, 1993

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Jess Kelley, Reclamation Engineer JK

RE: Plan to a) Temporarily Store Coal Mine Waste in the Main Facilities Area at the Trail Mountain Mine, and b) Dispose of Coal Mine Waste and Sediment Pond Waste from the Trail Mountain Mine in the Cottonwood/Wilberg Waste Rock Site, PacifiCorp Power Supply, Trail Mountain Mine (ACT/015/009-93A) and Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine (ACT/015/019-93A), Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

On February 10, 1993, the permittee submitted amended text for the Trail Mountain and Cottonwood/Wilberg mine plans. The submittal consists of a cover letter, amended pages 3-24, 3-48, and 3-48A for the Trail Mountain mine plan, and amended pages 1-8, 1-10, 2-1, 2-2, 2-10, 2-10.2, and 2-12.1 for the Cottonwood/Wilberg mine plan.

By this submittal, the permittee wants 2 things: 1) to amend both mine plans to allow for the disposal in the Cottonwood/Wilberg waste rock site of coal mine waste and sediment pond waste from the Trail Mountain mine; and 2) permission to temporarily store coal mine waste in the main facilities area at the Trail Mountain mine.

ANALYSIS

The text of both mine plans has been amended to refer explicitly to the disposal of coal mine waste and sediment pond waste from the Trail Mountain Mine in the Cottonwood/Wilberg waste rock site.

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R645-301-536.510 states that "[c]oal mine waste materials from activities located outside a permit area may be disposed of in the permit area only if approved by the Division." This being the case, and since the Cottonwood/Wilberg waste rock site is a permitted facility, the disposal there of coal mine waste from the Trail Mountain Mine is permissible.

R645-301-535.100 states that excess spoil must be "placed in designated disposal areas within the permit area in a controlled manner." Since sediment pond waste constitutes excess spoil, and since the Cottonwood/Wilberg waste rock site is an approved facility within a permit area, the disposal there of sediment pond waste from the Trail Mountain Mine is also permissible.

The permittee expects that the temporary storage of coal mine waste material in the main facilities area at the Trail Mountain Mine will last through the last quarter of 1993. This material is to be stored on the surface during a period of rehabilitation of the underground mine. Such temporary storage of waste material is also permissible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the February 10, 1993 submittal be approved and that the operator thus be allowed 1) to temporarily store coal mine waste in the main facilities area at the Trail Mountain Mine, and 2) to dispose of coal mine waste and sediment pond waste from the Trail Mountain Mine in the Cottonwood/Wilberg waste rock site.

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