



Kevin L. Cheeks, P.E.
Supervisor -
Environmental Quality Control

Consolidation Coal Company
Mid-Continent Region
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January 13, 1992

Mr. F. Burnel Corder, Director
Utah Department of Health
Division of Environmental Quality
Bureau of Air Quality
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4820

Dear Mr. Corder:

Consolidation Coal Company operates and jointly owns with Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Company the Emery Mine, an underground coal mine, in Emery County. During a recent inspection of this mine by the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, a request was made of mine personnel to provide correspondence describing air quality coordination and compliance efforts with your agency for the existing mine facilities as required by Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, regulation R614-301-420. The inspector specifically requested a copy of the facilities' air quality approval order. A search of company files and conversations with Bureau of Air Quality personnel prompting a search of the Bureau's files failed to locate such an order.

After further discussions with Bureau of Air Quality personnel and review of pertinent regulations it appears that no such order is required for facilities located in attainment areas which existed prior to enactment of the Clean Air Act and regulations. Consol feels that the existing facilities at the Emery Mine fall into this category.

A brief history of mining at this site, as described in the Utah Geological and Mineralogical Series No. 3-1972, shows that mining started in 1881 and that the mine become known as the Browning Mine in the early 1900's. The mine operated sporadically through 1936 providing coal for local needs. The mine, except for the years of 1984 and 1991 has been in steady operation since 1936. Consolidation Coal Company took over operation of the mine in 1975. Annual production figures from 1969 to the present are attached and are provided from company and State Geological Survey records.

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The surface processing and handling facilities have remained essentially unchanged since Consol has operated the mine. Several major expansion projects have been proposed at the mine during past years which involved the construction and operation of new surface facilities. Plans for these projects were submitted to the Bureau of Air Quality for review and agency approval orders were issued as outlined below:

- January 8, 1982 - Authorized the construction and operation of a new coal preparation plant, a stoker coal loadout and a coal fired furnace for the existing warehouse/office building.
- January 19, 1983 - Authorized the construction and operation of a new surface coal mine adjacent to the existing underground mine.

Due to marketing constraints the new preparation plant, new stoker loadout and surface mine were never built. Operational problems with the coal fired furnace caused it to be taken out of service and replaced with electric heaters.

In addition to correspondence associated with the above referenced approval orders Consol regularly submits updated emissions inventories for the Emery Mine as requested by the Bureau of Air Quality.

In order to respond to a condition contained in the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining's inspection report, Consol requests the Bureau of Air Quality, in light of the above, verify that the existing facility does not need an air quality approval order.

Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at the above location.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Cheeks
Supervisor,
Environmental Quality Control Dept.

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Attachments

CONSOLIDATION COAL COMPANY

EMERY MINE

(FORMERLY THE BROWNING MINE)

ANNUAL PRODUCTION IN TONS

1969	-	36,978
1970	-	115,239
1971	-	121,921
1972	-	Not Available
1973	-	218,000
1974	-	250,000
1975	-	75,748
1976	-	161,072
1977	-	264,180
1978	-	414,212
1979	-	602,094
1980	-	635,109
1981	-	648,871
1982	-	852,106
1983	-	87,716
1984	-	0
1985	-	627,975
1986	-	502,630
1987	-	268,868
1988	-	548,132
1989	-	585,513
1990	-	335,586
1991	-	0