

Bronco Utah Operations LLC

PO Box 527
Emery Utah, 84522
801-286-2301

March 20, 2018

C/015/0015
Received 3/21/18
Task #5627

Mr. Daron Haddock
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
Coal Program
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

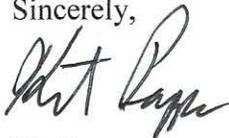
**RE: Bronco Utah Operations LLC
Emery Mine – Emery 2
Notice of Intent to Conduct Minor Exploration**

Mr. Haddock:

Please consider this a submittal for Bronco Utah Operations LLC (Bronco) Notice of Intent to Conduct Minor Exploration. The geologic database in the area Bronco is developing requires additional information. The proposed boreholes will be accessed and completed on private surface in coal that Bronco controls. There will be no substantial surface disturbance and access to the sites will be on existing roads and trails.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Kit Pappas at 435-286-2027.

Sincerely,



Kit Pappas
Environmental Manager

Attachments Application for Coal Permit Processing

APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING

Permit Change New Permit Renewal Exploration Bond Release Transfer

Permittee: Bronco Utah Operations

Mine: Emery Mine

Permit Number: _____

Title: Emery 2 Minor Exploration Permit

Description, Include reason for application and timing required to implement:

Emery 2 Exploration Boreholes

3/2018

Instructions: If you answer yes to any of the first eight (gray) questions, this application may require Public Notice publication.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? Acres: _____ Disturbed Area: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> increase <input type="checkbox"/> decrease. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO# _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 3. Does the application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 4. Does the application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 5. Does the application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 6. Does the application require or include public notice publication? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 7. Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 8. Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies?
<i>Explain:</i> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 15. Does the application require or include soil removal, storage or placement? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps or calculation? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 22. Does the application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities? |

Please attach four (4) review copies of the application. If the mine is on or adjacent to Forest Service land please submit five (5) copies, thank you. (These numbers include a copy for the Price Field Office)

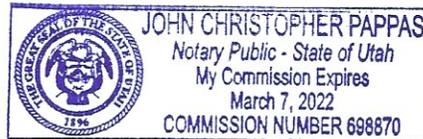
I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments, undertakings, and obligations, herein.

DAN R. BAKER
Print Name

Dan R. Baker
Sign Name, Position, Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20 day of MARCH, 2018

John C. Pappas
Notary Public
My commission Expires: MARCH 7, 2022
Attest: State of UTAH } ss:
County of CARBON



For Office Use Only:

Assigned Tracking
Number:

Received by Oil, Gas & Mining

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONDUCT
MINOR COAL EXPLORATION
EMERY MINE**

Submitted to:

**UTAH DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

Submitted by:

**BRONCO UTAH OPERATIONS LLC
PO Box 527
EMERY, UTAH 84522**

March 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
R645-200. COAL EXPLORATION: INTRODUCTION.....	1
R645-200-100. Scope	1
R645-200-200. Responsibilities.....	1
R645-201. COAL EXPLORATION: REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPLORATION APPROVAL	2
R645-201-100. Responsibilities for Coal Exploration Plan Review	2
R645-201-200. Notices of Intention to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration	2

FIGURES

- Figure 1 Emery 2 Minor Exploration Permit
- Figure 2 Emery 2 Drill Site Layout (typ)

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONDUCT
MINOR COAL EXPLORATION
EMERY MINE**

R645-200. Coal Exploration: Introduction

Bronco Utah Operations ("Bronco") proposes to drill 10 coal exploration boreholes near the Emery 2 mining area during 2018. The holes have been designated as EM2-18-01 through EM2-18-10 and will be located in Sections 31 and 32 of T. 22 S., R. 6 E., SLBM (see *Figure 1 – Emery 2 Minor Exploration Permit*).

This Notice of Intent is submitted pursuant to State of Utah rules for minor coal exploration as administered by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining ("the Division"). For ease of reference, this plan follows the format of the applicable rules (R645-200 through R645-203).

R645-200-100. Scope

Bronco intends to drill up to ten 5- to 6-inch diameter rotary/core holes that will intercept one or more coal seams each. Bronco controls the coal at each proposed exploration borehole site. All proposed exploration boreholes are located on privately owned surface. Less than 250 tons of coal will be removed under this plan and no substantial disturbance of the surface will occur. Although not required by the regulations, the total surface disturbance associated with this notice of intent including any trail access work will be less than 3 acres. Bronco is filing this Notice of Intent to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration pursuant to the requirements of R645-201-200.

R645-200-200. Responsibilities

210. RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLY WITH REGULATIONS – Bronco will comply with the requirements of R645-200 through R645-203.

220. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DIVISION TO REVIEW AND REPLY – The Division will receive and review this Notice of Intention to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration and reply within 15 days.

230. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DIVISION TO COORDINATE WITH OTHER AGENCIES – The Division will coordinate review of this Notice of Intent with other appropriate government agencies (if any). Bronco will provide enough copies of this notice to the Division for distribution to these agencies.

R645-201. Coal Exploration: Requirements for Exploration Approval

R645-201-100. Responsibilities for Coal Exploration Plan Review

The surface lands on which this exploration will be conducted are privately owned and not subject to 43 CFR Parts 3480-3487. Therefore, exploration plan review will be the responsibility of the Division. As a result, this Notice of Intent is being submitted to the Division as the lead agency for review and approval.

R645-201-200. Notices of Intention to Conduct Minor Coal Exploration

210. DIVISION REVIEW REQUIREMENT – This Notice of Intent requires Division review prior to conducting exploration. Bronco is submitting this Notice to the Division in March 2018 with the goal of beginning exploration activities as soon as approval is obtained. Bronco is experiencing geologic conditions underground that require immediate core hole samples to evaluate the geology.

220. REQUIRED APPLICANT INFORMATION – The following information is provided in support of this Notice of Intent:

Applicant

Bronco Utah Operations LLC
Emery Mine
PO Box 527
Emery, Utah 84522
435--286-2447

Responsible Representative

Bronco Utah Operations LLC
John 'Kit' Pappas
PO Box 527
Emery, Utah 84522
425-286-2027

Proposed Exploration Area

The proposed boreholes are located as indicated on *Figure 1* in Emery County, Utah. The drilling will occur on privately owned surface. Approximate coordinate locations and anticipated drilling depths are noted in **Table 1 – Summary of Estimated Borehole Locations and Depths.**

TABLE 1
Summary of Estimated Borehole Hole Locations and Depths^(a)

Drill Hole Number	Northing	Easting	Approximate Surface Elevation (ft)	Estimated Hole Depth (ft)
EM2-18-01	6752801	1705373	5,950	222
EM2-18-02	6753214	1704462	5,959	285
EM2-18-03	6753626	1703551	5,972	369
EM2-18-04	6754039	1702640	5,934	454
EM2-18-05	6754452	1701729	5,995	525
EM2-18-06	6754864	1700818	6,010	551
EM2-18-07	6755277	1699907	6,018	655
EM2-18-08	6752469	1704122	5,974	298
EM2-18-09	6751508	1705550	5,973	190
EM2-18-10	6751376	1703727	5,984	303

^(a) Northing and Easting coordinates are State Plane (ft), NAD 83. Total estimated depths include 5 feet of drilling beneath target seam floor.

Period of Intended Exploration

Planned startup date: April 2018
Planned completion date: September 2018

It is anticipated that all drilling and reclamation activities associated with this project will be completed within 75 days following the date of implementation; however, the actual startup date may vary, thereby delaying the completion date. All holes will be sealed and any associated disturbed areas reclaimed within two weeks of completion.

Method of Exploration

Drilling Methods: The method of exploration to be used is rotary/core drilling. Support equipment will include a water truck, flatbed truck to haul pipe and materials, pickup trucks to transport personnel, and equipment to reclaim the drill sites once drilling is complete.

Drilling will be accomplished using a contractor experienced in rotary and core drilling and without the aid of drilling fluids if possible. If drilling fluids are required, a portable mud pit will be used. No excavated mud pits are planned. Based on a review of available hydrologic data, it is not anticipated that sufficient subsurface water will be encountered to require the discharge of groundwater to local surface waters. If this becomes necessary, all such water will be discharged in accordance with the requirements of the Utah Division of Water Quality.

Amount of Coal to be Removed: A 5- to 6-inch diameter hole will be rotary and core drilled for the entire depth of each hole, penetrating through the "I" Seam. The core and cuttings will be examined and/or analyzed to determine the characteristics of the roof, coal, and floor. It is anticipated that a maximum of about 100 pounds of coal will be removed from each hole, resulting in much less than 1 ton of coal being removed for study and analysis under this plan from all the holes combined.

Site Access: Existing public and private roads and trails on private property will be used to access the sites to the extent possible. If required, it is anticipated that access route grading will be accomplished with a small dozer or backhoe. Since the areas where the exploration holes are to be drilled are relatively flat, it is not anticipated that extensive pad construction will be required. Brattice cloth or similar material will be placed under and adjacent to the rig to protect topsoil and surface vegetation.

After drilling has been completed, each site will be graded to approximate original contour, if necessary, and reclaimed. All materials, tools, and equipment will be removed immediately upon completion of drilling and reclamation activities.

Borehole Completion: All boreholes will be plugged with cement from bottom to top after all data is collected from the holes. Following completion of drilling and cementing activities, the drill rig and all associated equipment and materials will be removed from the area by vehicle. All trash and extraneous materials will be removed from the property and disposed at an approved off-site location.

Practices to Protect from Adverse Impacts and Reclaim the Area: Access to all boreholes will be by existing tracked routes to the maximum extent practical. Some grading of local areas may be necessary to permit efficient access to the drilling sites. Grading of drill sites will be kept to a minimum and then only as necessary to allow efficient operation of the equipment. If major grading is necessary in an area, the top 6 inches of soil will be removed prior to disturbance. This soil will be stockpiled, protected from erosion, and redistributed on the disturbed area during reclamation of the site.

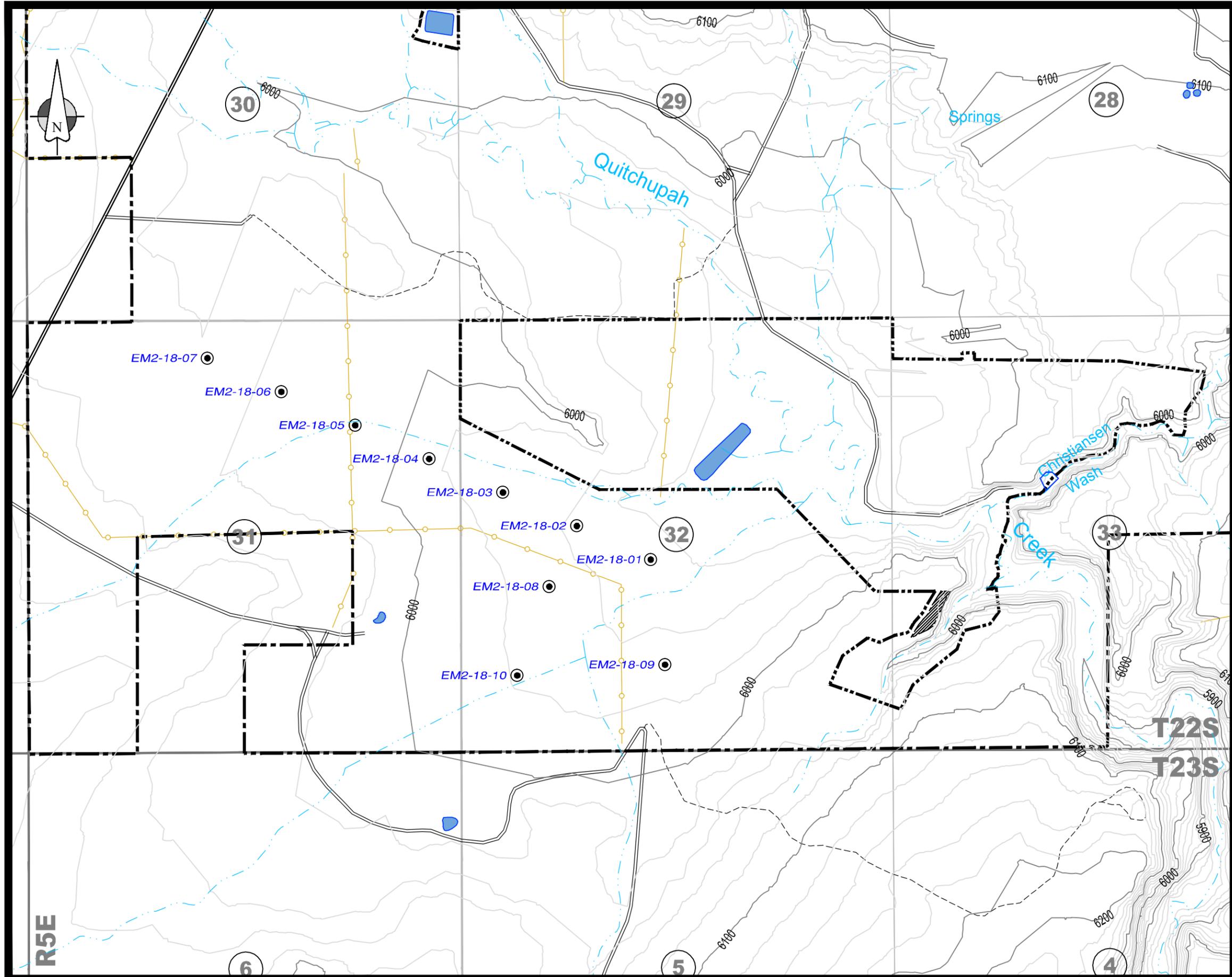
Drilling will be accomplished using only air, if possible. This will eliminate the need for a mud pit and the potential for spills of drilling fluids. If drilling fluids are needed, water and drilling fluids will be contained in a portable mud pit and recirculated to the extent possible. Any contents of the portable mud pit will be removed from the site at completion of drilling. Cuttings will be removed from the site to a State approved landfill prior to reclamation.

Areas disturbed under this drilling program will be regraded after drilling to the approximate original contour during reclamation. All existing dirt roads will be left in place at a serviceability at least equal to that which existed prior to drilling. During reclamation, soils compacted by vehicle and equipment traffic will be loosened to promote revegetation. Final grading will be along the contour to control erosion. After soils have been loosened, the impacted area will be reseeded with the following seed mix:

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Pounds Pure Live Seed/Acre</u>
Indian ricegrass	<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>	3.00
Alkali sacaton	<i>Sporobolus airoides</i>	0.50
Galleta hiliaria	<i>Hilaria jamesii</i>	2.50
Western wheatgrass	<i>Agropyron smithii</i>	3.00
Winterfat	<i>Eurotia lanata</i>	4.00
Fourwing saltbush	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	4.00

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Pounds Pure Live Seed/Acre</u>
Desert globemallow	<i>Sphaeralcea ambigua</i>	0.50
Blueleaf aster	<i>Aster laevis</i>	0.50
Sand dropseed	<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>	0.25
Castle valley clover	<i>Atriplex gardneri (var. cuneata)</i>	4.00
Black sagebrush	<i>Artemesia nova</i>	0.25
Mat saltbush	<i>Atriplex corrugate</i>	<u>4.00</u>
	Total	26.5

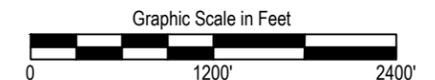
Seed will be placed by broadcasting. Following placement of seed, the soil will be lightly raked to cover the seed.



Legend

- DOGM Permit Boundary (C0150015)
- Adjacent Area Boundary
- Drill Hole Location
- EM2-18-01 Drill Hole ID

Drawing Adapted from:
 USGS 7.5 minute Quads
 Emery West and Walker Flat (1968)
 Emery East and Mesa Butte (1988)



Drawing Revisions

NO.	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION

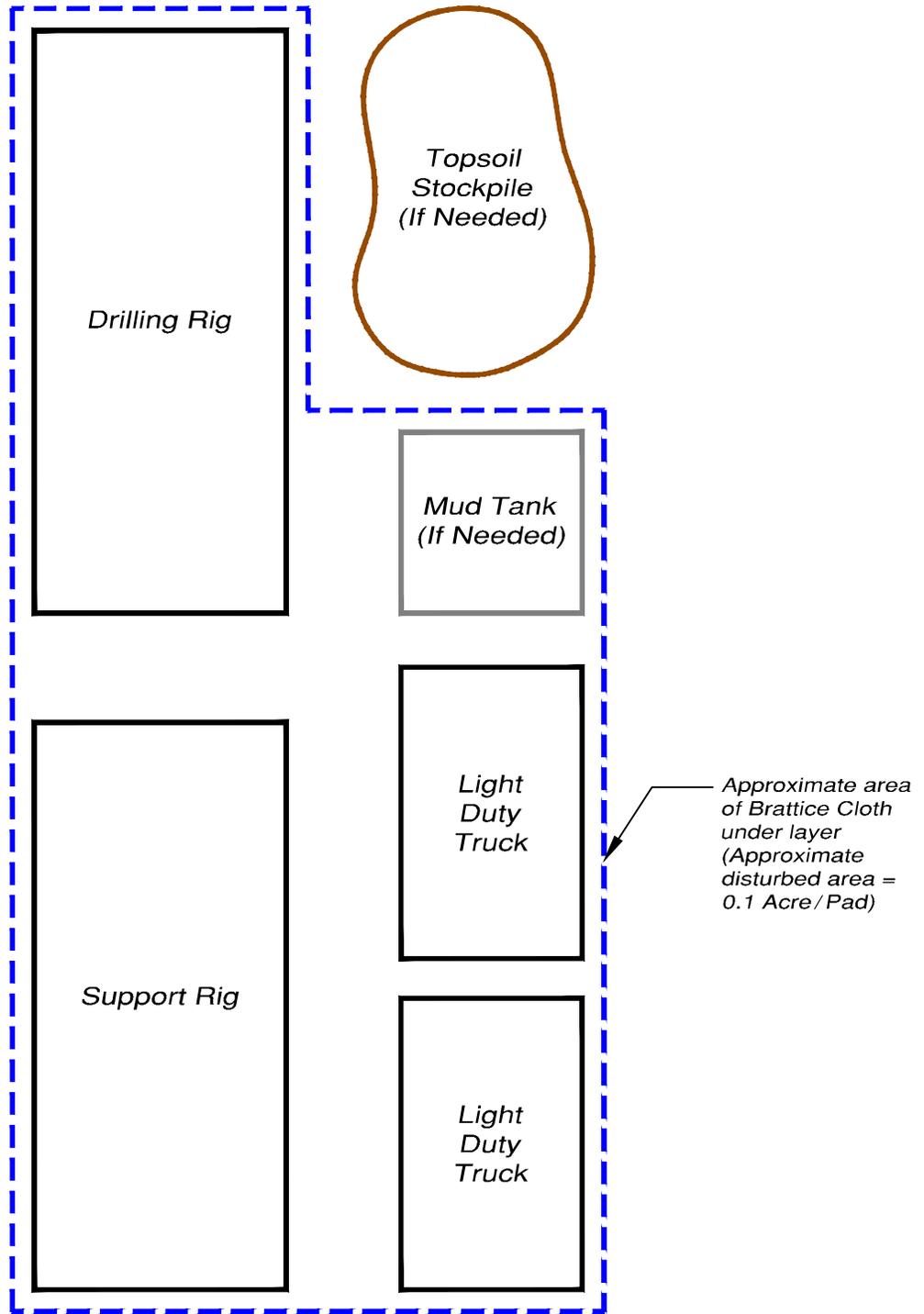


**Emery 2
 Minor Exploration Permit**

SITE: EMERY MINE	DATE: MARCH 2018	
LOCATION: EMERY COUNTY, UTAH	SCALE: AS SHOWN	
PROJECT NO: C-18049	FILE: Exploration Permit.dwg	FIGURE 1
DRAWN BY: SRR	SHEET 1 OF 1	

R5E

**T22S
 T23S**



NOTES:

1. Site Layout may change to accommodate efficient operation.
2. Brattice Cloth to be placed beneath all areas where equipment or materials will be stored at the drill site, except beneath the Topsoil Stockpile (If Needed).
3. Disturbed Areas to be reclaimed as indicated in the text.



**Emery 2
Drill Site Layout (typ)**

SITE: EMERY MINE		DATE: MARCH 2018	
LOCATION: EMERY COUNTY, UTAH		SCALE: NOT TO SCALE	
PROJECT NO: C-18049		FILE: Exploration Permit.dwg	FIGURE 2
DRAWN BY: SRR	SHEET 1 OF 1		