0027

April 10, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement File

FROM: Sandy Pruitt, Mining Field Specialist SP

RE: Utah Power & Light Company, Des-Bee-Dove Mines, ACT/015/017, #7, Emery County, Utah

DATE:	March 20, 1985 and March 21, 1985
TIME:	1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. and 8:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m., respectively
WEATHER:	Fair, Warm
COMPANY OFFICIAL:	Larry Guymon
STATE OFFICIAL:	Sandy Pruitt
ENFORCEMENT ACTION:	None

Compliance with Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining permitted use of the Des-Bee-Dove/Wilberg Junction Road under an Emergency Order until the mine permit application, including a road permit, is granted by the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM). The permit has not been issued yet.

UMC 817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

Excessive erosion off the upper substation pad needs to be stabilized to the extent possible. Contributing to the problems from the steep downslope of the substation pad, an old road or bench cut diverts drainage, from the undisturbed watershed above, to this point. Access to the area is a problem and may entail significant disturbance to the area next to the substation as will the necessary implementation of adequate drainage control measures. Therefore, it was requested that Emery Mining Corporation (EMC) develop plans addressing the necessary erosion stabilization measures for submittal for DOGM review and approval. EMC needs to regrade the Little Dove/ Beehive Mine pad to establish runoff control measures in accordance with the mine permit once approved. They intend to let a contract for both projects and do the work during miners' vacation in July. Plans should be submitted for DOGM review within the next month.

Other drainage control mearures within the mine yard were well maintained. The salt stockpile, located in the north drainage ditch of the loadout pad should be confined or relocated out the drainage pathways to prevent pickup by runoff draining to the sediment pond. The mine sediment pond functions as a salt concentrator with the accumulation of salts carried off the mine yard or concentrated by evaporation. Total dissolved solids (TDS) levels in the sediment pond discharge have been as high as 13,000 mg/l. The apparent constituents are calcium, sodium and sulfate. Larry Guymon discussed salt management problems with excessive salt applications occasionally, but two natural springs below the mine, but directly above the sediment pond, flow approximately one gpm with TDS levels reportedly up to 13,000 mg/l also. Larry Guymon did not have any supportive monitoring data for the seeps above the sediment pond. Following this inspection, Larry Guymon committed to construct a berm around the salt stockpile before the next inspection to divert runoff around the stockpile and contain the salt to the stockpile.

A contractor for EMC was in the process of clearing out sediments accumulated in the drainage channel to the sediment pond inlet from the flood event last fall. The sediments removed from the channel were being hauled for disposal at the Wilberg waste rock disposal site. Some of the fine material could be used to line the Wilberg sediment ponds to replace materials used for portal sealing, etc., at the Wilberg Mine. Since the Wilberg Mine fire cut off the water supply to the Des-Bee-Dove Mines, EMC let a contract with Nielson Construction Company, P. O. Box 620, Huntington, Utah, to haul water, up to four million gallons total, to the mine. A condition to the contract was that the successful bidder must be able to show proof of ownership of the necessary water shares. Nielson Construction is pumping water out of Cottonwood Creek for short haulage to the Des-Bee-Dove Mines.

Water monitoring data for the fourth quarter of 1984 was submitted to DOGM on April 2, 1985. Data available on site was current up to March 6, 1985. When EMC pumped the sediment pond down for cleaning, samples were taken daily during the dewatering operation and the quality analyses appeared good with the exception of TDS levels.

UMC 817.71-.74 Disposal of Underground Development Waste

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) recently required that all accumulated wastes in the mines be removed so cleanup operations are underway in the main entries of each mine.

Waste rock removed from the mines is disposed at the Wilberg waste rock disposal site. Trash sorted out of waste rock or removed from the trash bins is disposed at a landfill at the Hunter Plant.

Following the mine inspection, the Hunter Plant's fly ash disposal area was inspected to ensure that no waste rock was being disposed there, as before. There was no change evident from that reported by Ken Wyatt in a September 6, 1984 memorandum.

The Wilberg disposal site has a total of nine cells permitted for use. Cells #1 and 2 are full and being reclaimed. Cell #3 is near 2/3 full with waste rock and ash from the Wilberg Mine and Des-Bee-Dove Mines. Cell #6 has been used for disposal of sediment removed from the Des-Bee-Dove Mine sediment ponds, it is also about 2/3 full of water and sediments. Cells #4, 5 and 7 through 9 have not been excavated.

UMC 817.111-.117 Revegetation

EMC is currently seeding at the Des-Bee-Dove Mine site. The sediment storage site by the pond will be seeded this season also. The method being used with broadcast, mulch and secured netting is extremely labor intensive and progress is slow.

Larry Guymon discussed changing application methods. I recommended that he contact Lynn Kunzler or Steve Cox for approval.

UMC 817.121-.126 Subsidence Control

UP&L submitted a 1984 subsidence monitoring report on April 2, 1985.

Retreat mining is underway at 1st N in the Little Dove Mine with cleanup operations along the North Main. Only cleanup is underway in the Beehive Mine at 1st N and Main West and at Main North and the beltline entry of the Deseret Mine.

1983 pillar extraction in the Beehive Mine, Section 9W off 2nd W which is surrounded by burned coal, resulted in a maximum subsidence of five feet. No surface disturbances are reported. The area appears to have stabilized during the period from August 1983 to August 1984.

Up to 18 feet of coal was removed from the two seams and pillars extracted from Deseret Mine 5th W and Beehive Mine Section 4 W as of August 1981. Maximum subsidence of just over three feet is reported with no surface disturbances being apparent.

A maximum subsidence of two feet is reported over an area of the 1st N Little Dove workings with partial pillar extractions. The 1st N section intersected the old American Fuel mine workings in August 1982. Subsidence over the American Fuel mine has caused surface fractures and a drop in elevation of a maximum four feet. The 1984 survey detected no change from 1983.

UMC 817.150-.176 Roads

The approved abatement plans for Notice of Violation (NOV) N84-2-22-1 were fully implemented reportedly by March 8, 1985. EMC did a very good job of installing drop culverts and rock filters along the road to minimize erosion on the downslopes to the extent possible. The NOV was terminated effectively March 8, 1985, following this inspection.

The Emergency Board Order to utilize the haul road under temporary relief while the permit is being obtained is still in effect.

btb
cc: Larry Guymon
Donna Griffin
Joe Helfrich
John Whitehead
Statistics:
See Hidden Valley Mine memo dated April 10, 1985
0379R-7-10