



0017

STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

ACT/015/017  
file file #a

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March 24, 1988

TO: John Whitehead, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Dan Duce, Soils Specialist <sup>DD</sup>

RE: Des-Bee-Dove Mid-Term Review, Utah Power and Light Company, ACT/015/017, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

### Background

During the mid-term review of the Des-Bee-Dove Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP), several comments surfaced which have not been complied with. For example, on page 2-126 of the MRP, the applicant committed to a sampling program in 1985 of the fills on the Des-Bee-Dove/Wilberg Junction road to determine the suitability of this material as a substitute topsoil. Also, on page 4-11 the applicant committed to sample fill areas on the mine facilities area to provide a detailed analysis of soil productivity. This analysis was to be used during final reclamation for soil fertility and handling purposes.

Furthermore, the applicant has committed on page 2-126-A of the MRP, to provide, after mining and before reclamation, a soil comparison map to exhibit volumes and locations of suitable substitute topsoil material to be used during backfilling and grading. The applicant also commits, on page 4-6, to bury all acid or toxic-forming materials with 4 feet of suitable backfill material. But the applicant did not provide a sampling program to determine the presence or absence of acid or toxic-forming materials.

### Recommendations

To meet the requirements of UMC 784.13 Reclamation Plan: General Requirements, parts (3)(4)(5)(vii) and (7), and to fulfill the applicant's commitments in the MRP, the applicant must conduct a comprehensive soil sampling program. The sampling program shall be conducted on the Des-Bee-Dove/Wilberg Junction road and on the mine facilities area. The program shall be conducted to identify all suitable backfill materials which can be used as substitute topsoil, and to identify all acid or toxic-forming materials.

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Representative samples shall be taken from each fill to be used as backfill and samples shall be taken to depth at each sample point. At a minimum, each sample shall be analyzed for: pH, Ec, SAR, texture, percent saturation, percent organic carbon, total N, available P, Boron, Selenium and all coally material shall be analyzed for Acid-Base Potential.

From this sampling program a map shall be derived which exhibits all sample locations including volumes and locations of all suitable material to be used as substitute topsoil.

Before the applicant initiates this comprehensive sampling program, the applicant should consult with the Division to ensure the most cost effective program.

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