

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-LaSal
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

Reply to: 2820

Date: May 18, 1989

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Lowell Braxton
State of Utah Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Lowell:

We have reviewed the already approved Mid-Term Review updates sent to our office on February 2, 1989. Since we did not receive notification of the Mid-term Review prior to approval of this material, we reviewed the updates and have the following comments:

1. Page 2-71 (10/28/88 Revision)

It is stated on this page that spring 79-32 will not be monitored in 1988 or hence because flows have not changed during the previous five years. This is one of the springs identified by the Forest Service for monitoring due to high resource value. Utah Power and Light Company has not shown adequate justification for deleting this spring from the monitoring program.

2. Page 2-74 (10/28/88)

Alpine Spring and Flag Lake Spring are not listed for monitoring. Both of these springs were identified by the Forest Service as having high resource value and need to be monitored.

3. Pages 2-71 Through 2-97 (10/28/88)

The instructions for this section state that pages 2-71 through 2-97 should be deleted and replaced by pages 2-71 through 2-77. The deleted pages contain descriptions of surface drainages and ground water flow, information on water flow and quality, and describe the inter-relationship between hydrology and geology. The replacement pages only describe the monitoring program. The deleted information is required in the Federal Regulations and Utah Underground Coal Mining Rules and must not be deleted unless this information is presented elsewhere in the plan.

4. Part 4, Reclamation Plan

The revised seed mixes in Part 4 are not consistent with Forest Service objectives for management of the reclaimed areas. Please work directly with Bob Thompson (Forest Range Conservationist) to develop seed mixes which meet both Forest Service and DOGM requirements and objectives.

Maintenance and monitoring of vegetation success in reclaimed areas should include a provision for immediate eradication of any noxious weeds which invade the revegetated areas.

5. Maps and Drawings

It appears that we did not receive all of the revisions made to the MRP during the Mid-Term Review. We did not receive the July 11, 1988, revisions of Maps 2-15, 4-1 (Sheet 2 of 5) or 5-6 which are referred to in Utah Power and Light Company's September 28, 1988, letter to the Division.

If you have any questions, please contact the Forest Supervisor's Office in Price, Utah.

Sincerely,



for
GEORGE A. MORRIS
Forest Supervisor