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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangerter
Governor
Dee C. Hansen
Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

September 9, 1991

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Henry Sauer, Senior Reclamation Soils Specialist

RE: Condition Response R614-301-233(1)(HS), PacifiCorp Electric Operations, Des-Bee-Dove Mine, ACT/015/017, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Synopsis

The permittee has submitted plans and narratives for insertion into the Permit Application Package (PAP), to fulfill the requirements of Condition R614-301-233(1)(HS). The commitments made are adequate to fulfill the requirements of the Condition referenced above. However, key elements of the plan (i.e., laboratory soil analyses) must be forwarded and reviewed by the Division prior to implementation.

Analysis

The permittee proposes to demonstrate the suitability of the five major fills within the mine area as substitute topsoil material by collecting soil samples for laboratory analysis within the fills. The results will be compared to Division Guidelines for the Management of Topsoil Overburden, Table 2, and laboratory results from samples collected from adjacent undisturbed soil.

The suitability of the haul road fill material (i.e., stations 165+00 and 243+18) will be determined by the same procedures mentioned above. In addition to this, the three major fills along (under) the haul road, which have been partially revegetated and are the bulk of the proposed substitute topsoil volume, will be surveyed for vegetative canopy cover, production and diversity and compared to the Haul Road Reference Area. Supplemental seeding will take place if necessary.

Additional soil sampling and vegetation surveys will be conducted in year five (i.e., 1996). This will further describe the suitability/unsuitability of the proposed substitute topsoil material. These aforementioned procedures will represent a field site trial for the haul road fill material between stations 165+00 and 243+18.

Recommendations

1) The permittee must submit laboratory analyses to the Division for review and insertion into the PAP, as soon as possible. Laboratory results may substantially revise the procedures described above.

2) The permittee must describe the soil sampling techniques (i.e., depth increment and sample site locations) and laboratory constituents analyzed.

3) Approve the response to Condition R614-301-233(1)(HS) and insert into the PAP after recommendations #1 and #2 are fulfilled.

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