



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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October 11, 2000

TO: [REDACTED]  
FROM: Susan M. White, Senior Reclamation Biologist, Team Lead *SMD*  
RE: Pumphouse Area Reclamation, PacifiCorp, Des Bee Dove Mines, A [REDACTED]  
AM00A-1

**SUMMARY:**

The Pumphouse Area reclamation plan was received by the Division May 26, 2000. A response to deficiencies was received September 20, 2000. The pumphouse was constructed sometime between 1971 and 1974. The pumphouse was used until the mid to late 70's, after which in mine water was obtained. The facilities were demolished in late 1999/2000. The area of disturbance is small, approximately 1.5 acres. This memo reviews the biology, hydrology, and engineering sections of the amendment.

**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS :**

**RECLAMATION PLAN**

**POSTMINING LAND USES**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.15, 784.200, 785.16, 817.133; R645-301-412, -301-413, -301-414, -302-270, -302-271, -302-272, -302-273, -302-274, -302-275.

**Analysis:**

The amendment has not changed the stated postmining land use of wildlife and grazing.

**Findings:**

The application meets the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

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## PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.97; R645-301-333, -301-342, -301-358.

### Analysis:

Page 4-97 (revised 4/8/98) states that there are no known active aerie territories associated with the project. This statement is not correct. An active nest is located within visual sight of the pumphouse location. However, Section R645-301-300: Biology, Appendix IV, identifies Golden Eagle nest 75 IA in close proximity to the pumphouse but outside the ½ mile buffer zone. Reclamation work conducted in the fall should have no impact on these nests.

### Findings:

The application meets the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

## BACKFILLING AND GRADING

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.15, 817.102, 817.107; R645-301-234, -301-537, -301-552, -301-553, -302-230, -302-231, -302-232, -302-233.

### Analysis:

Backfilling and grading operations are minor. No design has been provided and no design is required. Small amounts of surface coal waste deposits will be buried on site. The road area will be ripped and the berm material used as topsoil. Site photos are provided in Appendix A of R645-301-500, Appendix IV of the application.

### Findings:

The application provided meets the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

## HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-515, -301-532, -301-533, -301-542, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-751, -301-760, -301-761.

## **Analysis:**

### **Diversions**

No diversions are being constructed for the reclamation of the pumphouse area. A minor drainage or swale will be reestablished through the area to complement the surrounding drainage.

### **Sediment Control Measures**

The primary sediment control measures for the pumphouse area is extreme surface roughening as a final surface preparation. Hay or hydromulch will also be used to stabilize the soil surface. Straw bales will be placed downslope and along the mine access road should any runoff occur.

## **Findings:**

Provided the straw bales are installed correctly, the information provided meets the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

## **REVEGETATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.18, 817.111, 817.113, 817.114, 817.116; R645-301-244, -301-353, -301-354, -301-355, -301-356, -302-280, -302-281, -302-282, -302-283, -302-284.

## **Analysis:**

### **General Requirements**

The seed mixture is identified in Table 1 of section R645-301-300, Appendix IV. The seed mixture contains a diverse mixture of species native to the site. The mixture contains a warm season grass component. It is advised to plant this portion of the seed mixture just prior to summer rains, usually in June or by mid-July. The seed mixture is either to be broadcast by hand or by a hydroseeder. The Operator should take care if using a hydroseeder, that the seed is in the water slurry as short a time possible, in no case should the seed be in the water longer than a half hour.

### **Timing**

A fall seeding is assumed. The Operator is urged to also conduct a summer seeding with the warm season species.

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**Mulching and Other Soil Stabilizing Practices**

Section 340, of R645-301-300 in Appendix IV states that Certified weed free alfalfa hay will be incorporated into the soil following grading at the rate of 2000 lbs/acre. If seed is applied with a hydroseeder then hydromulch and not hay mulch will be applied at the rate of 1000 lbs./acre with an addition of 500 lbs. tackifier.

**Standards for Success**

The Operator plans (Section 350 of R645-301-300 in Appendix IV) state that they will, if needed, conduct rill and gullies repair according to the regulations in R645-301-357.300. Any repairs will be reported in the annual vegetation report.

A pinyon-juniper reference area was selected and approved for use as a vegetative standard in 1982. The pinyon-juniper reference area had 30% vegetative cover when measured in 1980.

**Findings:**

Information provided in the proposed amendment meets the minimum regulatory requirements of this section.

**MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RECLAMATION OPERATIONS**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-323, -301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731.

**Analysis:**

**Affected Area Boundary Maps**

R645-301-500: Map Section of Appendix IV contains two maps, a pre and post reclamation map. The maps show the disturbed area boundary of the pumphouse area in red. The maps are certified by John Christensen, a Licensed Professional Engineer.

**Findings:**

The information provided meet the minimum regulatory requirements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The amendment may be approved.