



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

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October 16, 2000

Chuck Semborski, Environmental Supervisor
Energy West Mining Company
P. O. Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

Re: Conditional Approval of Pumphouse Reclamation, PacifiCorp, Des-Bee-Dove Mine,
ACT015/017-AM00A1, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Semborski:

The above-referenced amendment is conditionally approved upon receipt of four additional clean copies for incorporation. Once we receive these copies, we will send an stamped approved copy to you for incorporation into your Mining and Reclamation Plan. A copy of our technical analysis is enclosed for your information.

Since your reclamation equipment is ready to mobilize to the Pumphouse area you may consider this letter approval to begin reclamation activities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (801) 538-5258.

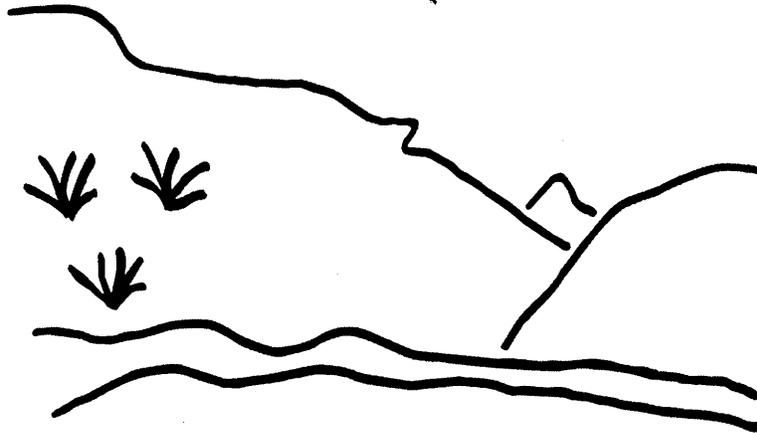
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan M. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Susan M. White
Acting Permit Supervisor

smw/sm
Enclosure:
cc: Price Field Office
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State of Utah



Utah Oil Gas and Mining

Coal Regulatory Program

Des Bee Dove Mine
Pumphouse Area Reclamation
ACT/015/017-AM00A-1
Technical Analysis
October 13, 2000

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The Pumphouse Area reclamation plan was received by the Division May 26, 2000. Historical use of the Pumphouse area pre-dates SMCRA. Actual pumphouse construction occurred sometime between 1971 and 1974 and was used until the mid to late 70's when the pumphouse was no longer needed and was de-activated. In 1999, the surface facilities (including the pumphouse facilities) of the Des-Bee-Dove Mine were removed. The area of disturbance is small, approximately 1.5 acres.

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Revised : October 13, 2000

INTRODUCTION

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION**SOILS RESOURCE INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 783.21, 817.200(c); R645-301-411, -301-220.

Analysis:

The Des-Bee-Dove pumphouse reclamation amendment contains adequate information for the following:

- Soil Survey
- Soil Characterization

Soil Survey

A Soil Survey was performed for the Des-Bee-Dove pumphouse by Dr. A. R. Southard, Soil Scientist, from Utah State University. Southard reported three major conclusions from his survey:

1. Horizon A material does not exist in sufficient quantity to warrant soil salvage.
2. Existing selective soil materials are acceptable as plant growth medium.
3. Final reclamation would be enhanced by introduced grass species.

Soils within the vicinity of the Pumphouse Area were classified as *Typic Ustochrepts-Lithic Ustorthents- Rock Outcrop Loamy-Skeletal, Shallow 40-60% slopes*. Soils were described as mostly loamy-skeletal and lithic with areas of sandstone outcrops. Soils are approximately 50% Typic Ustochrepts, 25% Lithic Ustorthents, and 20% Rock Outcrop Rubble Land about.

In May 1989, Southard reclassified the soils as loamy-skeletal mixed mesic Lithic Ustorthents with a 0-4 inch A horizon, 4-14 inch C horizon, and R (sandstone rock) below 14 inches. Soils are moderately calcareous and alkaline (pH 8.3) with disseminated carbonates in the A horizon. The C horizon is described as strongly calcareous and alkaline (pH 8.8) with disseminated carbonates. The A horizon contains 55% gravels which will lessen the water holding capacity significantly. The C horizon contains 40% flagstone and 30% channery.

Soil Characterization

Although soil sampling was conducted at the Des-Bee-Dove Mine, these samples were taken near the portal areas and are not representative of the pumphouse area. The amendment states that successful native vegetation establishment and growth throughout the pumphouse site has demonstrated soil suitability.

Findings:

The information provided meets the regulatory requirements of this section.

OPERATION PLAN

OPERATION PLAN**TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-230.

Analysis:**Soil Salvage**

Neither topsoil nor subsoil were salvaged at the Pumphouse area during construction of the storage tank and pumphouse. A loop road was constructed, graded and graveled to access the 10,000 gallon storage tank behind the pumphouse. A berm was built along the access road which deflects runoff to a sediment trap located at the southern end of the site. The amendment identifies this berm as a "topsoil" source for reclamation use.

Findings:

The information provided meets the regulatory requirements of this section.

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Revised : September 20, 2000

OPERATION PLAN

RECLAMATION PLAN

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.

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.

TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.22; R645-301-240.

Analysis:

The MRP amendment contains adequate information concerning soil redistribution as follows:

- Soil Redistribution
- Soil Stabilization and Erosion Control

Soil Redistribution

No topsoil was salvaged or stockpiled at this site. Indigenous materials will be used as substitute topsoil and growth medium. However, the road berm will be used as topsoil.

Table 1, Procedural step of reclamation, located in Section R645-30-500 Engineering, describes in detail each chronological step of reclamation from sediment control to seeding the area as follows:

RECLAMATION PLAN

Revised : September 20, 2000

RECLAMATION STEP	DESCRIPTION
1. Place sediment control down-slope of reclamation	Straw bales will be positioned on the south side of the existing road.
2. Non-coal waste clean-up	Remove and transport all non-coal waste in and around the disturbed area to the Emery County landfill.
3. Coal mine waste clean-up	Remove all coal waste material in the disturbed area and bury in the pumphouse/storage tank area.
4. Reestablish minor drainage	Conducted using backhoe.
5. Roughen access road and remove berm	After access road is roughened, material from berm will be used as topsoil. Areas will be deep gouged. A certified weed free alfalfa hay will be contemporaneously incorporated into the soil.
6. Remove sediment trap on southern end of disturbed area.	Dispose of trap material and recontour with shovel and rake. Care will be taken not to disturb established vegetation.
7. Recontour and roughen location of pumphouse and water storage tank	Recontouring consists of blending disturbed area with existing topography. Areas will be deep gouged. A certified weed free alfalfa hay will be incorporated into the soil.
8. Seed area	A certified seed mix as outlined in the Biology section will be used to seed the areas during steps 5 and 7.
9. Install signs	Signs will be placed around the reclaimed site.

The pumphouse area will be recontoured to establish overland flow within the disturbed area. As identified in step 5 of Table 1, material from the road berm will be used as topsoil and redistributed over the access road after the road is ripped and deep gouged. Ripping and deep gouging will help relieve soil compaction and promote root penetration in areas that were compacted by vehicle traffic.

Soil Stabilization and Erosion Control

Deep gouging will be used to control runoff and trap sediment. A track hoe bucket is used to create the deep gouges in a random and discontinuous fashion. Pockmarks created are approximately three feet in diameter and one and half feet deep. Gouging serves both to control erosion through water/sediment retention and enhancing vegetation growth through trapping precipitation thus promoting water infiltration.

Rocks and boulders will be randomly positioned throughout the pumphouse area and along the access road to help enhance vegetation establishment by creating micro habitats.

Soil Nutrients and Amendments

No fertilizers or other soil amendments will be used in the pumphouse area.

Findings:

The information provided meets the 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

RECLAMATION PLAN

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.

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:

The information provided meets the 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.

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