

February 10, 2003

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor
Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Priscilla W. Burton, Sr. Reclamation Specialist/Soils

RE: Technical Field Visit, Phase II Reclamation, Energy West Corp., Des Bee Dove Mine, C/015/017

Other Attendees:

Chuck Semborski, Energy West Corp.
Tom Lloyd and Brian McClelland, U.S. Forest Service, Ferron Ranger District.

Date & Time: February 4, 2003, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PURPOSE: To observe the progress of Phase II reclamation.

OBSERVATIONS:

The access road between the Deseret pad and the Phase I reclamation was backfilled with spoil from the outslope of the road. The material was a mix of soil and coal mine waste. Mr. Semborski reported the following properties of the fill:

<u>Location</u>	<u>pH</u>	<u>EC (mS)</u>
Hiawatha Seam #1	7.7	1.3
Hiawatha Seam #2	7.8	1.3
Hiawatha Seam #3	7.4	2.4

TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

Mr. Semborski provided me with a sub-sample of fill from each location. Back at the office, I ran pH and EC on a 1:1 extract and on a soil paste with the following results:

Location	1:1		Paste	
	pH	EC (mS)	pH	EC (mS)
Hiawatha Seam #1	7.5	1.85	7.8	0.76
Hiawatha Seam #2	7.8	1.80	7.8	1.05
Hiawatha Seam #3	7.5	2.3	7.6	1.46

While I was on site, the contractor was using a trackhoe to remove soil from the slope above (northeast) of the access road immediately below the Phase I cattle trail. This activity was not documented in Appendix XV of the MRP. The soil salvage was producing a sizeable quantity of much needed substitute topsoil and exposing the Star Point sandstone rock in places and a 1.5h:1v or greater cut slope in others. Mr. Semborski indicated that the salvage would enable coverage of the soil/coal mine waste fill on the access road with one foot of soil cover.

Mr. Semborski indicated that excess soil gained from this slope excavation would be useful as substitute topsoil elsewhere in the Phase II reclamation. These substitute topsoils were being moved with a bulldozer. All earthwork was within the disturbed area boundary.

Compaction of the fill along the access road was discussed. The fill had been compacted by several passes with a bulldozer, but the fill had not been placed in horizontal lifts. The height of this fill is approximately 12 feet and the slope is 2h:1v. The length of the slope is approximately 20 feet. The fill sits on the road surface.

Boulders were being dug out of the slopes for use in the drainage. The drainage construction requires rocks with a D₅₀ of six feet.

Photos from this date can be viewed at:
<ftp://ogm.utah.gov/PUB/MINES/coal/015/017/Images>

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

Since the ongoing soil salvage activity was not currently documented in the MRP, I requested a written explanation of the change in operations and a map showing the location of the soil salvage, along with an accounting of the volume of soil gained from the location and the volume used on the access road. Also requested was a written description of the reclamation plans for the soil salvage area including slope angles for cut and fill slopes. This information was to be received by the Division by Monday, February 10, 2003. Prior written notification of any further changes to the approved plan was requested.

Mr. Semborski and I discussed the utmost importance of maintaining the stability of the cattle trail above the soil salvage area. Reclamation, including pocking and seeding the soil salvage area was discussed. The most efficient means of moving the topsoil was discussed.

Mr. Lloyd walked down the cattle trail and made the following comments:

- Rebar on the trail should be removed.
- Concrete remaining from blasting should be removed.
- Large rocks on the trail should be removed.
- A large mtn mahogany bush should be cut back or removed from the trail.

cc: All Attendees
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