ACT/015/018
#4

July 1, 1986

TO: Coal File

FROM: Richard V. Smith, Geologist RVS

RE: Response to U.S. Forest Service Comments on Proposed Utah Power & Light Company Changes in East Mountain Spring Monitoring Program

Utah Power and Light has requested that springs 79-25, 79-30, 79-31, 79-32 and 79-33 be eliminated from their monitoring program and the suite of springs utilized for recession analyses be modified by substituting spring 79-29 for spring 79-32.

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) reviewed the proposed changes in the East Mountain Spring Monitoring Program and forwarded their comments to the federal regulatory agency. Subsequently, USFS comments were forwarded to the Division for resolution prior to federal regulatory agency approval. The remainder of this memorandum is directed towards addressing USFS comments.

The springs that Utah Power and Light proposes to eliminate have been monitored as follows:

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	Total	
79-25	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	times
79-30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	
79-31	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	
79-32	1	1	1	1	1	4	5	14	
79-33						1	1	2	

The annual Hydrologic Monitoring Report for 1985 indicates Utah Power and Light accessed 64 springs to derive flow and temperature data. Accordingly, elimination of the five above noted springs will reduce the total number of monitoring stations to 59.

Twelve springs were monitored for the East Mountain Recession study during 1985. Substituting Spring 79-29 (5.3 gpm avg.) for Spring 79-32 (2.30 gpm avg.) will not change the total number of stations utilized for recession analyses. Although Spring 79-32 and Spring 79-29 do not occur within the identical stratigraphic horizon in the North Horn Formation, the operator monitors seven other springs at the North Horn Formation/Price River Formation contact including 79-23 for spring recession analyses.

The Division approves Utah Power and Light's proposed changes in the East Mountain Monitoring Program on the basis of:

1. Adequate baseline data have been derived for the subject springs;

2. Future permit renewals that encompass the area where the springs are located will require updated baseline data according to the Division's Water Monitoring Guidelines.

3. Adequate data have been derived to conduct recession curves for Spring 79-32. Data from Spring 79-29 will provide additional characterization of aquifer properties within the North Horn Formation.

djh
9206R-27

Speed Message

To Rick Smith

Date 6-23-86

From John W.

Subject UP&L Spring Monitoring Chg

Please take a look at the Forest Service Response. Apprise me by 6-24 if you concur

thx

Signed John

Wilson Jones Company
GRAYLINE FORM 44-899 2-PART
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Speed Message

To Tom Munson

OSM Letter of 6/11/86

Date 6-16-86

From John W.

Subject UP&L Spring monitoring Change Request

Please review the attached Forest Service Response. Apprise me if you concur or not and what you would suggest as to our next step. Can you get this by 6-18-86?

(Please return pkg when finished)

the

John

Signed

JOHN - NO COMMENTS, EXCEPT THEY SHOULD ADDRESS THE FOREST SERVICE COMMENT

Tom 6-23

Wilson Jones Company
GRAYLINE FORM 44-899 2-PART
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file PCT/015/028
cc. T. Munson
R. Smith

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

JUN 11 1986

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton, Administrator
Mineral Resource Development and Reclamation Program
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Braxton:

Enclosed are the U.S. Forest Service comments on the proposed changes to the spring and seep monitoring plan for the Deer Creek mine. These need to be addressed in order for the Office of Surface Mining Recamation and Enforcement to concur with the proposed change.

If you have any questions, please call Rick Lawton or Richard Holbrook at (303) 844-2896.

Sincerely,

Mel Shilling

Melvin L. Shilling, Chief
Mining Analysis Division

Enclosure

RECEIVED
JUN 13 1986
DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

RECEIVED
OIL

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-LaSal
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

WESTERN TECHNICAL CENTER

Reply to: 2820

Date: May 28, 1986

Rick Lawton
OSM - Reclamation and Enforcement
Brooks Towers
1020 15th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Mr. Lawton:

The Forest Service has reviewed the proposal by Utah Power and Light Company to eliminate certain springs from their monitoring program as a permanent change. We do not concur with the permanent elimination of springs 79-25, 79-30, 79-31, 79-32, and 79-33 from the current monitoring program. Since the springs are situated within an area that is not scheduled to be mined during the next ten years, the monitoring of the springs can be temporarily postponed, except for 79-32. This spring should be kept in the study recession group. Monitoring of the other four springs must again commence at least three years prior to the area being mined. This would provide approximately seven years relief between monitoring periods for the four springs.

3 years baseline
lease stips
were did this come from

Utah Power and Light Company also indicates that eliminating the five springs would reduce their monitoring number by seven. Is this a number mistake or have two more springs been proposed to be dropped from monitoring?

agree

There has not been enough information provided to justify the deletion of spring 79-32 from the current monitoring program and add spring 79-29 to it. Spring 79-32 is located at the contact of the KPR and TKn, while spring 79-29 is in the middle of TKn. What flow characteristics are similar between the two springs? Additional justification will have to be provided and evaluated prior to a decision being made.

If there are any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

W. H. Baley

for
REED C. CHRISTENSEN
Forest Supervisor

Spring 79-32 eliminate

Copy of cover letter

MRP REVISION/NOV TRACKING FORM
(Revised: 9/25/85)

Type of Proposal: X COAL ____ NONCOAL

____ Exploration
____ NOV/CO Abatement, NOV # _____, Abatement Deadline _____
____ MRP Revision
X MRP Amendment
____ MR-1 Application (non-coal)

Issuing Inspector _____

Title of Proposal: Request to Revise East Mtn. Spring Monitor Program

Company name: UP&L

Project/ Mine Name: DEER CREEK / WILBERG } MINES

File # (PRO/ACT): 015/018 / 015/019
(CEP/EXP/INA)

New Acres Disturbed (Fed/State/Fee): ___/___/___

Assigned Reviewers:		Review Time (hrs):	OTHER AGENCIES: (# of copies & date)	
(Hydrology)	Tom Munson		OSM	(1) 3/31
(Wildlife/Veg.)			USFS	
(Engineering)			BLM	
(Soils)			Health	
(Geology)	Rick Smith		History	
			H2O Rts	
			Wildlife	
			USFWS	

DATES: (a) Initial Plan Received March 31/86
Tech Review Due April 15/86 (if possible)
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____

(b) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____

(c) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____

(d) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____

(e) Optr. Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____

(f) Optr. Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
DOGM Response Sent _____

(g) Cond'l. Approval _____
Stipulations Due _____
Stips Received _____
Final Approval _____

(h) MR-9 Received _____
MR-9 Acknowledged _____

COMMENTS: _____

NOTE (INSPECTORS): Please attach a copy of the NOV issued to the abatement plan when received from the operator.

NOTE (REVIEWERS): Please prepare review comments in a format referencing the appropriate regulation or statute.

7566R

Work Copy

UTAH POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
1407 WEST NORTH TEMPLE STREET
P. O. BOX 899
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84110

RECEIVED
MAR 31 1986
DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

March 21, 1986

Mr. Rick Smith
STATE OF UTAH NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Oil, Gas and Mining
33 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

SIMONS + LEE
GEORGE COTTON

Dear Mr. Smith:

Re: East Mountain Spring Monitoring Program

79-25
79-30
79-31
79-32
79-33
5
0

Utah Power and Light Company (UP&L) would like to request an elimination of springs 79-25 and 79-30 through 79-33 from its current monitoring program. These springs are located on the far western edge of UP&L's permit boundary and mining below or adjacent to them is not planned within the next 10-year period. They were sited by helicopter reconnaissance and drilling programs conducted in 1977 and 1979 and all roads associated with the drilling programs were reclaimed during the 1977 - 1979 time frame (see attachment). Reclamation of these roads has allowed the vegetation to become re-established, making routine monitoring difficult without inflicting environmental damage with each visit.

The elimination of these springs will reduce the number monitored by UP&L from sixty-four to fifty-seven . However, UP&L has one of the most comprehensive spring monitoring programs within the industry, and it is felt that observing fifty-seven springs is adequate to establish hydrologic impacts due to mining. Also, nearly every year new springs are added to this monitoring program if they will aid in determining hydrologic impact of mining as long as they are situated so environmental damage is not inflicted.

During 1984, an additional flow information study was initiated by UP&L. The purpose of this program is to establish flow recession curves for eleven springs which encompass the entire property. In 1985, an additional spring (84-56) was added to this list to establish recession information for the southern section of the property. With elimination of spring 79-32, which

is in the recession study group, UP&L proposes to monitor 79-29 in its place. Spring 79-29 is located within close proximity to 79-32, and emanates from the same formation with similar flow characteristics.

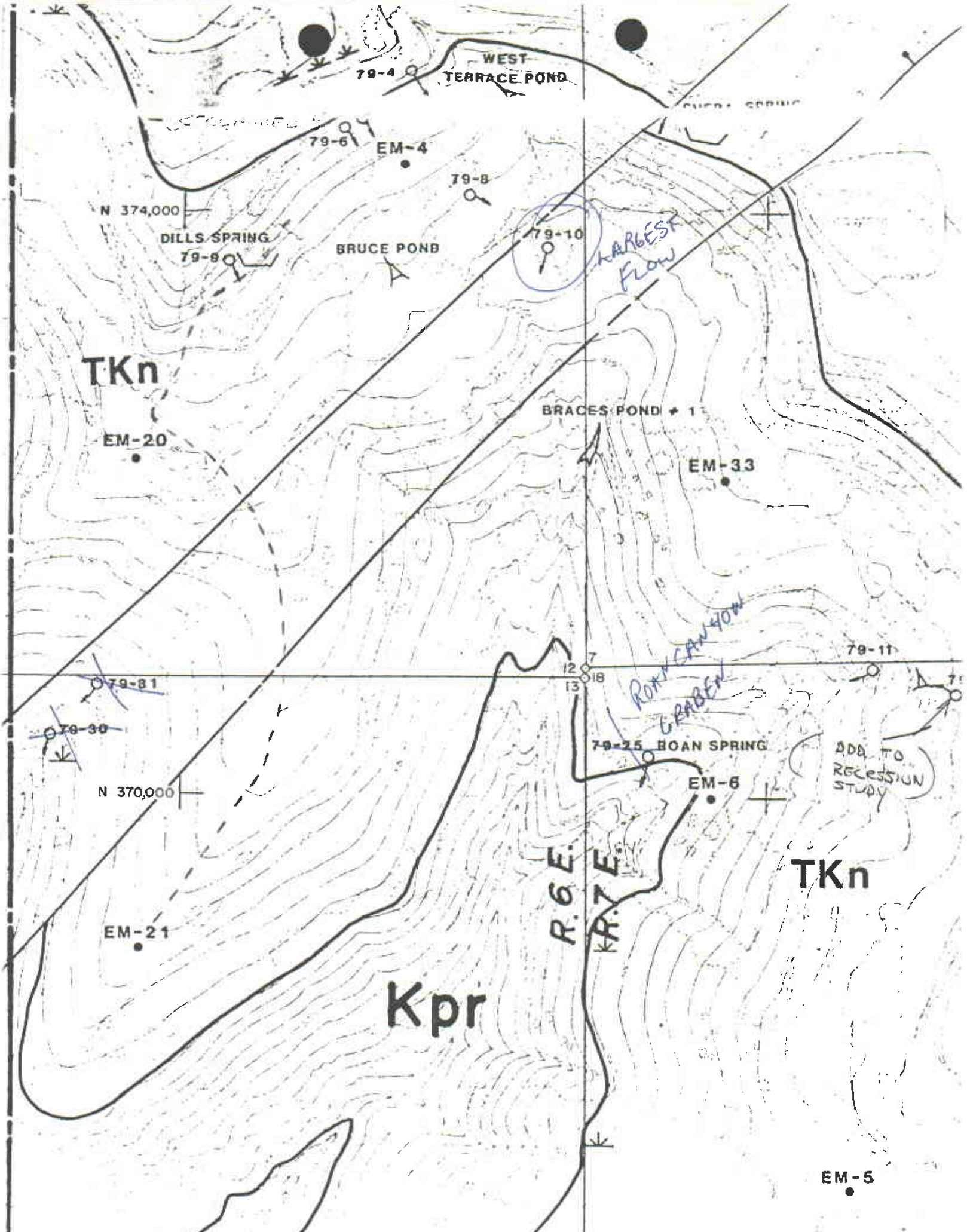
UP&L will consider these adjustments as a permanent change to its monitoring program. Please advise us if these changes do not meet with your approval. If further information is required concerning this matter, I may be contacted at 801-653-2312 or 653-2318.

Sincerely,

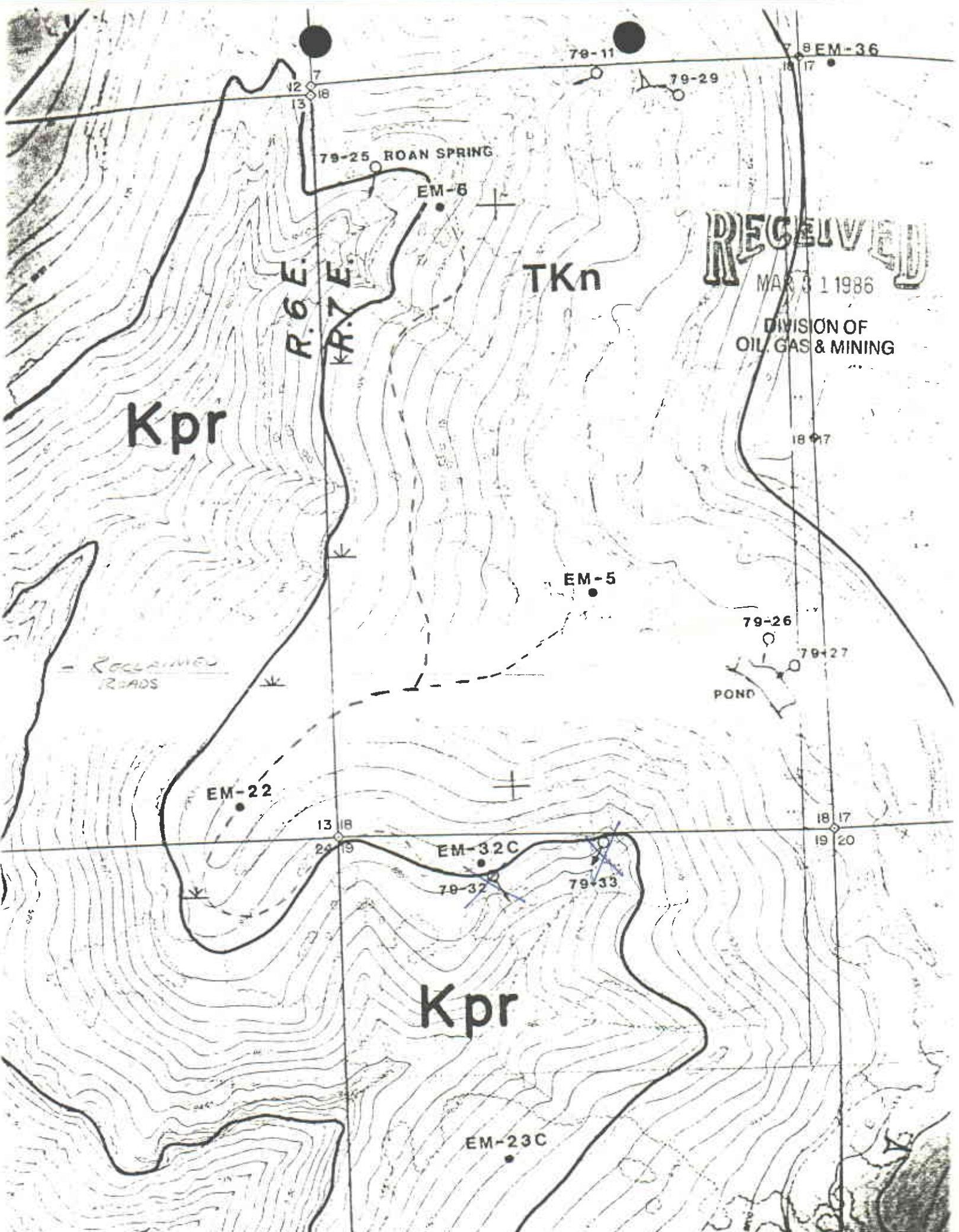
Charles A. Semborski

Charles A. Semborski
Geologist
Mining & Exploration

CAS:lmt:607
Attachment
cc: R. C. Fry
K. Snider
C. E. Shingleton



WEST
TERRACE POND
79-4
79-6
EM-4
79-8
N 374,000
DILLS SPRING
79-9
BRUCE POND
79-10
LARGEST FLOW
TKn
BRACES POND # 1
EM-20
EM-33
ROAN CANYON GRABEN
79-11
12
7
18
13
79-31
79-30
79-25 ROAN SPRING
ADD TO RECESSION STUDY
EM-6
N 370,000
R.6E.
R.7E.
TKn
EM-21
Kpr
EM-5



RECEIVED
MAR 3 1 1986
DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING