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Mig mine file
Deer Creek ACT/015/018
cc P. Grubaugh-Littig
L. Braxton

BEFORE THE
UTAH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF DELETING A SEGMENT OF DEER CREEK, TRIBUTARY OF HUNTINGTON CREEK, FROM THE LIST OF ANTIDEGRADATION SEGMENTS IN THE UTAH WATER QUALITY STANDARDS, R448-2, UTAH ADMINISTRATIVE CODE	)	NOTICE OF HEARING

Please take notice that the Utah Water Pollution Control Committee will conduct Public Hearings for the purpose of receiving comments concerning possible revisions to R448-2, Utah Administrative Code, Standards of Quality for Waters of the State.

The State is requesting public comment on a request by Utah Power and Light Company (UP&L) to delete a portion of Deer Creek in Emery County from the list of antidegradation segments. The rules adopted by the Water Pollution Control Committee do not allow new point source discharges of wastewater into streams designated as antidegradation segments. Deer Creek is so designated from the U.S. Forest Service boundary upstream to the headwaters. The segment of Deer Creek in question is about 0.7 miles long and extends from the Forest boundary to the Deer Creek mine.

UP&L has encountered significant additional amounts of ground water in its Deer Creek mine. In order to maintain operation and safety, this water must be discharged. The discharge began on December 6, 1990 and consists of ground water with no added pollutants. The major impact is expected to be increased sediments in Deer Creek and Huntington Creek as a result of erosion through the Deer Creek channel which is typically dry. As part of a bypass agreement, UP&L has agreed to monitor downstream impacts of the discharge including water quality and macroinvertebrate communities. The U.S. Forest Service, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining have offered comment concerning this discharge. If the request of UP&L is granted by the Committee, and Deer Creek is deleted from the list of antidegradation segments, the discharge from the mine to Deer Creek will become permanent and will be controlled under the UPDES discharge permit program.

For the convenience of all interested persons, Hearings will be held at 7:00 p.m., February 11, 1991 in the Commission Chambers, Emery County Courthouse, Castle Dale, Utah and at 1:30 p.m. on February 14, 1991 in Room 125 of the Cannon Health Building, 288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, Utah. Authority for conducting the hearing is contained in Utah Code Annotated, Section 26-11-1 through 26-11-20.

Representatives of political subdivisions, governmental agencies, industries, planning or civic groups, environmental groups, and all other persons having an interest in the above proceedings are invited to appear and present their views relative to the proposed revisions. Opportunity will be afforded to any and all having a desire to participate. Oral statements will be accepted at the time of the hearing, but for the accuracy of the record, written statements are encouraged and will be accepted at the time of the hearing or prior thereto. If mailed, statements should be addressed to:

Executive Secretary
Utah Water Pollution Control Committee
P.O. Box 16690
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-0690

For more information on the hearings, contact Reed Oberndorfer or Jay Pitkin at:

Utah Bureau of Water Pollution Control
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(801) 538-6146

Dated this, the 8th of January, 1991.

Don A. Ostler
Executive Secretary
Utah Water Pollution Control Committee