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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

Reply to: 2820

Date: June 3, 1993

Lowell Braxton
State of Utah Department of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

RE: Supplemental Information, Incidental Boundary Change, Federal Coal Leases
U-47977 and SL-050862, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, ACT/015/018-93E, Folder
#2, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Braxton:

We have reviewed the supplemental information submitted by PacifiCorp for their proposed second incidental boundary change on Federal Coal Leases U-47977 and SL-050862. We hereby consent to the proposed incidental boundary change subject to the changes made in the supplemental submittal as follows:

Only development mining will occur in the proposed incidental boundary change area. The applicant has committed to resolving the escarpment concern before longwall extraction will begin to the east of the development workings.

The applicant has demonstrated that the longwall panels shown to the east of the development workings will be situated to prevent subsidence of the Castlegate Sandstone outcrop in the North Fork of Meetinghouse Canyon.

We are still concerned that the life-of-mine maps (Maps 3-6 and 3-7) show panels that are located beneath the escarpment in Rilda Canyon and Meetinghouse Canyon (shown on the maps as the South Fork of Meetinghouse Canyon). Lease stipulations require that mining be conducted in such a manner as to prevent subsidence that could cause escarpment failures, unless specifically approved. Because of the potential for subsidence of the escarpment to cause failures, surface disturbance, and associated impacts to surface resources, an environmental analysis would be required to disclose potential impacts and serve as the basis for a decision by the Forest Supervisor. As a separate but related matter, we feel that the maps need to be revised to remove the panels and workings beneath the escarpments or to identify them as workings that have not been approved under the current permit.

If you have any questions contact Carter Reed or Walt Nowak at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Price, Utah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George A. Morris".

for

GEORGE A. MORRIS
Forest Supervisor

cc:

D-3

C.Reed

Val Payne, PacifiCorp Power Supply