

PACIFICORP
POWER SUPPLY
April 8, 1993

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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

**RE: APPLICATION FOR PERMIT CHANGE - INCIDENTAL BOUNDARY CHANGE,
PACIFICORP, DEER CREEK MINE, ACT/015/018, EMERY COUNTY, UTAH**

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

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Pursuant to R645-303-220, PacifiCorp respectfully submits this application to amend the Deer Creek Mine permit. The amendment involves an Incidental Boundary Change (IBC) to add approximately 160 acres of U.S. Forest Service land to the Deer Creek Mine permit area.

As you will recall, in March of 1992 an unexpected fault was encountered in the Third North Main development section in the Deer Creek Mine. In September of 1992, an Incidental Boundary Change (IBC) for 120 acres was requested to facilitate mining to identify the extent of the faulted zone. The IBC was approved in January of 1993.

Development mining delays resulting from the new fault and information obtained from mining and in-seam horizontal drilling resulted in the need to modify the original approved R2P2 mine plan for the area of the mine north of the Roans Canyon Fault (see attached letter of February 2, 1993 to Mr. Torres, BLM). The modification involves developing longwall panels off the east side rather than the west side of the Third North Mains.

Subsequent in-seam drilling in the First East development section has shown that the fault trends in a more northerly direction than was projected previously (see attached Map A, Fault Projections 4/92 vs Fault Projections 3/93). This condition results in shortened longwall panels and the need to develop the Third North Mains further north at an earlier time-frame than previously planned. The modified timing indicates that the Third North Mains will approach the northern limits of the previous Incidental Boundary Change area as early as July of 1993. Therefore a second

IBC is necessary to ensure continued and uninterrupted coal production at Deer Creek Mine.

Only underground entry development mining will take place in the area of the proposed IBC; therefore, no impacts to non-coal resources will occur.

The land associated with the proposed Incidental Boundary Change is comprised of the following parcels:

E1/2NE1/4 Section 32, T16S R7E, SLB&M
Containing 80 acres
Portion of Lease No. U-47977

W1/2NW1/4 Section 33, T16S R7E, SLB&M
Containing 80 acres
Portion of Lease No. SL-050862

The surface owner of record of the subject property is:

United States of America
Department of Agriculture
US Forest Service
Manti-LaSal National Forest
599 Price River Drive
Price, Utah 84501

The parcels involve the following two (2) Federal Coal Leases presently held by PacifiCorp (Utah Power & Light Company):

Lease No. U-47977;
All of Section 32, T16S R7E, SLB&M.
Issued to West Appa Coal Company May 27, 1982. BLM approved assignment to UP&L effective July 1, 1986.
(See attached BLM Decision document of June 17, 1986.)

Lease No. SL-050862 (includes U-24069 & U-24070);
W1/2SW1/4 Section 28, T16S R7E, SLB&M
E1/2SE1/4 Section 29, T16S R7E, SLB&M
W1/2NW1/4, NW1/4SW1/4 Section 33, T16S R7E, SLB&M.
Issued to J.B. Johnson August 5, 1937. BLM approved assignment to UP&L effective July 1, 1986.
(See attached BLM Decision document of June 20, 1986.)

Surface owners of record of lands adjacent to the proposed Incidental Boundary Change area are:

United States of America
Department of Agriculture
US Forest Service
Manti-LaSal National Forest
599 Price River Drive
Price, Utah 84501

Federal coal leases adjacent to the proposed IBC area are held by PacifiCorp (Utah Power and Light Company) as follows:

Lease No. U-06039

Issued to Ferdinand F. Hintze May 1, 1953

BLM approved assignment to UP&L- effective date January 1, 1980.

Lease No. U-024319

Assignment of lease entered into on May 18, 1979, between UP&L as assignee and Peabody Coal Company as assignor, approved by BLM effective January 1, 1980.

Lease No. U-014275

Assignment of lease entered into on May 18, 1979, between UP&L as assignee and Peabody Coal Company as assignor, approved by BLM effective January 1, 1980.

Regulation R645-303-222 through R645-303-224 allows for Incidental Boundary Changes as permit amendments if the area meets the following criteria:

1. The IBC area is less than 15% of the surface or subsurface disturbed area under the approved permit (R645-303-224.100);
2. The IBC area is in the cumulative impact area as defined in the Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment (R645-303-224.200);
3. The IBC area is in the same hydrologic basin as operations authorized in the approved permit (R645-303-224.300).

As previously stated, only underground entry development mining will occur in the proposed IBC area, resulting in extraction of approximately 250,000 tons of coal. The associated subsurface disturbance will be approximately eighteen (18) acres. The current subsurface disturbed area at the Deer Creek Mine is estimated to be approximately 4,000 acres. Therefore, the total surface area encompassed by the IBC (160 acres) equates to only four (4) percent of the subsurface disturbed area, with the projected subsurface disturbance in the IBC area being only 0.5 percent. Therefore, criterion number 1 is met.

The proposed IBC area is within the area covered by the Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment (CHIA) prepared for the Deer Creek Mine and, mining within the IBC area is within the hydrologic basin for which operations are authorized in the approved permit. Additionally, the proposed IBC area is included in the current PacifiCorp hydrologic and subsidence monitoring programs conducted at the Deer Creek Mine. Therefore, criteria 2 and 3 are met.

Mining in the proposed Incidental Boundary Change area is critical

to further mine planning and production at the Deer Creek Mine. All means available for defining fault location, and conditions which could affect the safe and efficient recovery of the coal reserve, are being utilized by PacifiCorp and Energy West. Surface and in-mine drilling information continue to be used to better define the extent of the faulted area. However, even with the latest technology, the complexity of the faulted area cannot be completely and accurately understood until mining occurs. In-mine drilling will continue in conjunction with development mining.

Mining in the Deer Creek Mine is currently approximately 900 feet from the proposed IBC area (see enclosed 11" x 17" portion of Deer Creek Mine Workings Map). Because the recently encountered fault is trending in a northerly direction, as previously discussed, it is anticipated that mine development will reach the boundary in July of this year.

The proposed IBC area is part of the Rilda Lease Tract Extension Area associated with the Deer Creek Mine. An application, to include this area in the Deer Creek Permit, is being processed at this time. However, approval of the application is not expected in time to accommodate mining in the proposed IBC area in the necessary time frame.

Enclosed are ten (10) copies of the following Deer Creek Mine Permit maps showing the area addressed in this application:

<u>Packet No.</u>	<u>Drawing No.</u>	<u>Map Title</u>
1-1	Cm-10522-DR	Coal Ownership Map
1-2	CM-10521-DR	Surface Ownership Map
1-3	CM-10367-DR	Mine Permit Area Map
3-6	CM-10857-DR	Life of Mine Plan-Blind Canyon Coal Seam
3-7	CM-10858-DR	Life of Mine Plan-Hiawatha Coal Seam

If the amendment is approved, all necessary map and text revisions will be made and submitted as directed by the Division.

Your immediate attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please call me at 653-2312.

Sincerely,


Val Payne
Sr. Environmental Engineer

Enclosures

cc: Steve Kochevar
Morgan Moon
J. Blake Webster
North Emery Water Users Association