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A Division of PacifiCorp

PACIFICORP
POWER SUPPLY

Post-it™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671	# of pages ▸ 5
To PAM LITTIG	From VAL PAYNE
Co.	Co.
Dept.	Phone #
Fax # (801) 359-3940	Fax #

March 15, 1995

Utah Coal Regulatory Program
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Attention: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig

FAX Pam
#2 (Copy)

RE: UNDERGROUND DRILL HOLES TO SURFACE, PACIFICORP, DEER CREEK MINE, ACT/015/018, EMERY COUNTY, UTAH

PacifiCorp requests approval to drill two (2) drill holes from the underground workings in the area of the Rilda Canyon fan entry to the surface (see attached drawing). The drill holes will facilitate confirmation of underground and surface surveying accuracy.

One hole will be drilled along the bearing of the proposed return (fan) entry, at such an angle as to approximate the proposed bearing and grade (upward at 8%) of the entry. This hole will intersect the subcrop/alluvium boundary and reach the surface near the proposed location of the fan portal.

The second hole will be drilled vertically from the return entry at the location shown on the enclosed drawing. The hole will surface near the location of drill hole DH-94-9, which was drilled from the surface in the fall of 1994.

Each drill hole will be three (3) inches in diameter. Casing will not be installed. Upon completion of surveying, the vertical hole will be plugged at the surface using "hole plug" (pelletized bentonite). Following plugging, any surface impacts will be repaired using the same techniques (hand raking and hand broadcasting) and certified seed mixture as were used during the drilling in 1994. A copy of the seed mixture is attached. Please note that, as was agreed to with the Forest Service in 1994, no container stock shrub or tree species are included in the mixture. Because of the small amount of surface disturbance associated with the helicopter drilling in 1994, inclusion of container stock was determined to be unnecessary. Surface disturbance associated with the underground drilling will be even less than what occurred in 1994.

Impacts to the surface will be minor, resulting only from the drill steel breaking through the soil and possibly a small amount of water spraying from the drill steel. The water flow will be terminated as soon as it is determined that the drill has reached the surface; therefore, very little water will reach the surface. Additionally, personnel will be present on the surface to control water flow, if necessary.

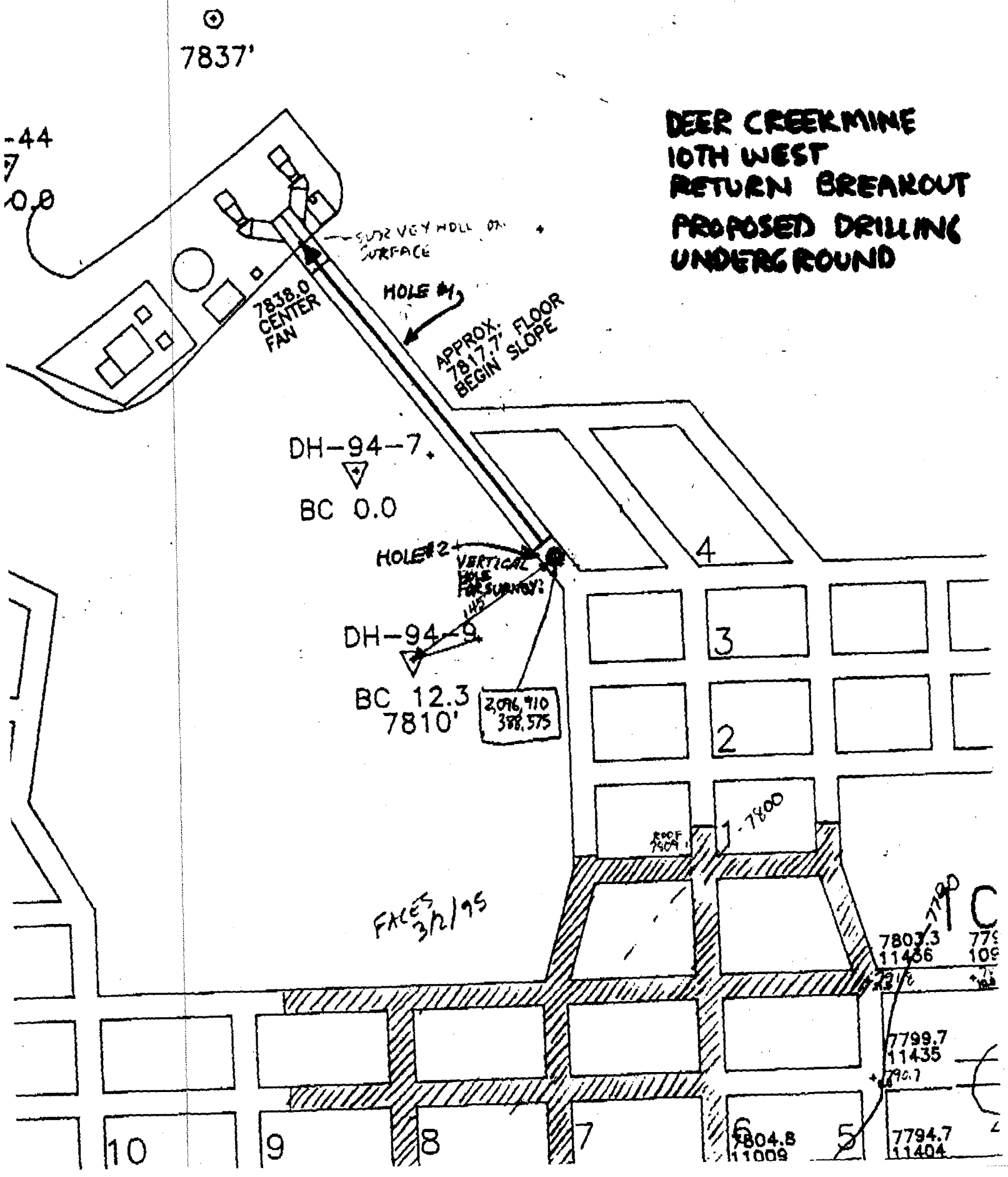
Applicant desires to conduct the drilling as soon as possible; therefore your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

If you require further information, please call me at 653-2312, ext. 16.

Sincerely,

Val Payne
Sr. Environmental Engineer

cc: K. Fleck
M. Moon
C. Semborski
B. Webster
File


7837'
DEER CREEK MINE
10TH WEST
RETURN BREAKOUT
PROPOSED DRILLING
UNDERGROUND
-44
0.0
SURVEY HOLE ON SURFACE
HOLE #1
7838.0
CENTER
FAN
APPROX. FLOOR
7817.7'
BEGIN SLOPE
DH-94-7
BC 0.0
HOLE #2
VERTICAL
DH-94-9
BC 12.3
7810'
2,096,910
388,575
4
3
2
1
7800
FACES 3/2/95
7803.3
11436
7799.7
11435
7804.8
11009
7794.7
11404
10
9
8
7
6
5

35. Any reclaimed roads must be signed and blocked off to discourage vehicle access by the public.

36 Reclamation efforts will be diligently pursued. Revegetation will be considered successful when 90% of the pre-disturbance ground cover is re-established over the entire disturbed area, with no noxious weeds. Adjacent undisturbed areas will be used as a base for comparison of ground cover. Of the vegetative ground cover, at least 90% must consist of seeded or other desirable species. 90% ground cover must be maintained for three years.

37. Seeding will be done with the following certified seed mix:

Species	pounds/acre
GRASSES	
Blue bunch wheatgrass - Agropyron spicatum	2
Streambank wheatgrass - Agropyron riparian	2
Western wheatgrass - Agropyron smithii	2
Intermediate wheatgrass - Agropyron intermedium	2
Kentucky bluegrass - Poa pratensis	2
Needle and thread grass - Stipa comata	1
Perennial Rye grass - Lolium perenne	2
FORBS	
Cicer milkvetch - astragalus cicer	1
Yellow sweet clover - melitotus officinalis	1/2
Alfalfa - medicago sativa var. ladak	1/2
Pacific Aster - Aster chilensis	1/4
Louisiana Sage - Artemisia Ludovicana	1/4
Blue aster - Aster glaucodes	1/4
SHRUBS (Seed)	
Vasey sagebrush - Artemisa trid. var. vaseyana	1
Four wing saltbrush - Atriplex canescens	2
Low Rabbitbrush - chrysothamnus viciflorus	1
Snowberry - symphoricarpus oreophilus	1/2
Curl leaf mahogany - cereocarpus ledifolius	1/2
	Plant/Acre
SHRUBS/TREES CONTAINER STOCK	
Saskatoon service berry - Amelanchier alnifolia	50
Rocky Mountain Juniper - Juniperus scopulorum	20
Dogwood - Cornus sericea	20
Coyote willow - Salix exigua	50
Booth willow - Salix Boothii	50
Narrowleaf cottonwood - Populus angustifolia	100
Douglas Fir - Psuedotsuga menziessi	10
Squaw currant - Ribes cereum	20

This seed mixture must be consistent with the Utah Seed Act.

38. The operator will be held responsible for control of noxious weed infestations found to be a result of this drilling operation.

Moab District
Price River Resource Area
900 North 700 East
Price, Utah 84501

3482
U-06039
(UT-066)

STAFF REPORT

Title: Recommended Plugging Method for the Energy West Helicopter Drill Holes, Rilda Canyon

Date: October 27, 1994

I have discussed the matter of alternative helicopter coal exploration hole plugging methods with representatives of Energy West Mining and PacifiCorp (Roger Fry, Val Payne and Chuck Semborski) and representatives of the Bureau of Land Management (Brent Northrup and Jim Kohler). The factors involved in this discussion are as follows:

1. The drill holes are very shallow between 30 to 400 feet, and small diameter (3 inches).

2. The drill holes are located on the upper end of a dip slope.

3. The drill holes are in an area that is probably burned and fractured. There would be a lot of surface leakage in the fractures if cement were used.

4. The drill holes probably will not have much water in them.

5. A helicopter is being used on these holes two reduce the amount of environmental impacts to the surface. The possible resulting spills from mixing cement could cause environmental damage.

Pelletized bentonite can be poured into the holes and reach the bottom of the hole before dissolving, if there is any water left in the hole from drilling. If any water should enter these holes, the bentonite will swell forming a very tight seal in the hole. Pelletized bentonite will not leak out of the surface fractures as cement will.

Therefore, because of these factors, we recommend that Energy West Mining use pelletized bentonite to plug these holes as long as the holes are dry. If any of the holes should make a significant amount of water, then cement must be used. Cement can be emplaced through tubing to get the sealer to the bottom of the hole. We will give a copy of this report to Val Payne of Energy West Mining.

Thomas E. Rasmussen
Price River Resource Area, Geologist