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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
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Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

September 14, 1998

Chuck Semborski, Environmental Supervisor
Energy West
P. O. Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

Re: Completion of Midterm Permit Review, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, ACT/015/018-98MT, File #3, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Semborski:

The Division has completed the Midterm Review for the Deer Creek Mine. A check of ownership and control information was completed and an OSM Applicant Violator System (AVS) recommendation of "issue" was obtained. Your reclamation cost estimate was reviewed and we have determined that your reclamation bond is adequate for the present time. The conceptual plan that you provided for highwall elimination was also reviewed and found to comply with the requirement for elimination of highwalls.

This completes the Midterm review process. However, in order to complete the highwall elimination issue you will need to file an amendment with the Division to amend your Mining and Reclamation Plan for the elimination of highwalls as outlined in your conceptual plan. This should be submitted no later than October 13, 1998.

Thank you for your help in completing this review.

If you have any questions regarding these requirements or the Midterm Review please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daron R. Haddock".

Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

tam
cc:

Joe Helfrich
Daron Haddock
Price Field Office

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September 4, 1998

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DH*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Reclamation Specialist *WHW*

RE: Midterm Review Requirements, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, ACT/015/018-MT98, File #2, Emery County, Utah

SUMMARY:

On August 7, 1998, PacifiCorp gave the Division information pertaining to the midterm review of the Deer Creek Mine. The Division reviewed the engineering information and found the material adequate.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-800

On August 28, 1998, the Division reviewed the reclamation bond cost estimate. The Division determine that the bond was adequate.

The bond calculations was not in the current format used by the Division. The Permittee committed to update the reclamation bond costs format in the neat future. The Division will review the revised calculation when they are received.

Findings:

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section.

BACKFILLING AND GRADING

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-234, -301-537, -301-552, -301-553, -302-230, -302-231, -302-232, -302-233.

Analysis:

The Permittee responded to the letter from Mary Ann Wright dated March 3, 1998, that deals with deficiencies associated with Highwall elimination. The highwall elimination plans were for the

Midterm Review
ACT/015/018-MT98
September 4, 1998
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Division to review and comment. The plans were not part of a formal submittal and will not be reviewed as such.

The Permittee identified seven areas with portals. Four of the areas have highwalls that were constructed prior to May 3, 1978 (Pre-SMCRA). One area has highwalls constructed after May 3, 1978 (Post-SMCRA). Two areas have portals but no highwalls.

The Permittee plans to backfill the Pre-SMCRA highwalls to a 2:1 slope with readily available spoil material. The Division reviewed the cross sections for the Pre-SMCRA sites. The Permittee's plan for highwall elimination appears to be adequate. However, the Division did not review the cut and fill calculations to determine if all available materials would be used to eliminate the highwalls. The Division will review the cut and fill calculations when the Permittee submits the highwall elimination amendment.

The Division approved the Permittee's plan to eliminate the Post-SMCRA highwalls. As part of the highwall elimination exercise the Division reviewed the Post-SMCRA highwalls reclamation plan. The Division determined that the plan will eliminate the Post-SMCRA highwalls. All Post-SMCRA highwalls will be covered and the topography will approximate the existing original contours.

The other portal sites do not have highwalls. They will be backfilled and sealed from within the mine.

The Division reviewed the Permittee's conceptual plan for highwall elimination. The plan appears to comply with the highwall elimination rules. The Division recommends that the Permittee submit an amendment based on the conceptual plans.

Findings:

The Division cannot approve the highwall elimination plan that was shown in the midterm report, because the midterm is not a formal amendment. The Division looked at the highwall elimination plan and agrees with the concept. When the highwall elimination plan is submitted the Division will formally review the plan at that time.



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Michael O. Leavitt
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August 28, 1998

To: File

From: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor 

Re: Compliance Review for Section 510 (c) Findings - Midterm Review, Deer Creek Mine, PacifiCorp, ACT/015/018, Folder #3, Emery County, Utah

As of the writing of this memo, there are no NOVS or COs which are not corrected or in the process of being corrected. There are no finalized Civil Penalties which are outstanding and overdue in the name of PacifiCorp. PacifiCorp does not have a demonstrated pattern of willful violations, nor have they been subject to any bond forfeitures for any operation in the state of Utah.

The OSM recommendation from the Applicant Violator System (AVS) denotes an "issue".

Applicant Evaluation

Applicant Violator System

28-Aug-1998 11:48:49

State : UT Permit No : ACT015018

App1 No : ACT015018

Applicant : 108521(PACIFICORP)

Seqno : 4

SYSTEM RECOMMENDATION IS BASED ON ENTITY OFT

SYSTEM RECOMMENDATION : ISSUE 08/28/1998

PREVIOUS SYSTEM RECOMMENDATION : ISSUE 06/12/1998

RCM_MNT(F7) PERMIT/APPL(F8)

PRV_SCR(F3) EVOFT(F5) REPORTS(F9) CHOICES(F10)

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