0031

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

October 6, 2008

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: James D. Smith, Environmental Scientist III

RE: Mine Structure to the Rilda Portal Facilities, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Task ID # 3064

SUMMARY:

On September 25, 2008 the Division received this amendment. It updates the surface facility map and bonding calculations for the Deer Creek Mine to include a reclosure switch and a platform to access the switch. (A reclosure switch protects the substations and other electrical installations from automatic re-closing of incoming power from the power company and will allow Deer Creek Mine personnel to trouble shoot power failures before reapplying power back to the Rilda Left and Right Fork Sub-stations.) In order to move forward with the installation of the reclosure switch and platform while weather conditions are still mild, the Permittee has requested speedy approval by the Division.

The switch is to be installed on an existing power pole. A steel platform, to support and provide access to the reclosure switch, will extend from the road to the pole. It will be within the existing power line corridor and within the current disturbed area boundary. The Permittee states that all design and construction processes comply with OSHA and NEC safety standards for platform and electrical installations.

The Permittee is currently reorganizing Volume 11 of the MRP, which covers the Rilda Canyon facilities. The Permittee intends to submit the revision of Volume 11, including the reclosure switch and platform, in late 2008 or early 2009.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 773.17, 774.13, 784.14, 784.16, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-300-140, -300-141, -300-142, -300-143, -300-144, -300-145, -300-146, -300-147, -300-147, -300-148, -301-512, -301-514, -301-521, -301-531, -301-532, -301-533, -301-536, -301-542, -301-720, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-761, -301-764.

Analysis:

Stream Buffer Zones

The proposed operation will be within the stream buffer zone and within the current disturbed area boundary. The Division has already authorized coal mining and reclamation activity within this buffer zone upon finding that the mining activities, using the sediment control measures described in the MRP, will not cause or contribute to the violation of applicable State or Federal water quality standards and will not adversely affect the water quantity and quality or other environmental resources of the stream.

Sediment Control Measures

The proposed construction will be within ASCA 2, where sediment control is to be provided by vegetation and curlex blankets.

Findings:

Hydrologic Operation Information is sufficient to meet the requirements of the Coal Mining Rules.

CUMULATIVE HYDROLOGIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14; R645-301-730.

Analysis:

The proposed construction will be within the current disturbed area boundary. The CHIA does not need to be updated for this amendment.

Findings:

The CHIA does not need to be updated for this amendment.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Division should approve this amendment for incorporation into the MRP.

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