



C/015/018 Incoming
CC: Ingrid #3869
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P.O. Box 310
15 North Main Street
Huntington, Utah 84528

July 7, 2011

Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
Utah Coal Program
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Subj: Amendment to Remove the Commitment to Conduct Periodic Vegetation Surveys using Color and Color Infrared Aerial Photographs, Pacificorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Emery County, Utah

PacifiCorp, by and through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Energy West Mining Company ("Energy West") as mine operator, hereby submits an amendment to remove the commitment to conduct periodic vegetation surveys using color and color infrared photographs from the Deer Creek Mine Permit. Submission of this amendment is in response to the 2010 Annual Report Review Completion, Task ID #3793, requesting submission of aerial photography for vegetation monitoring purposes.

Energy West has had aerial photographs taken of the active mining areas in black and white every year, and color and color infrared every 5 years. Energy West has attempted to detect changes in vegetation that might be caused by mining by interpreting these sets of photographs without success. The inability to detect changes in vegetation that might be caused by mining using color and color infrared images is due to several factors - spreading insect infestations in forest stands, variations in precipitation from year to year, variations in the time of year when the photographs are taken, and the quality of the photographs themselves. These factors make it difficult or impossible to detect any changes that might be caused by mining activities. Aerial photography, whether color or color infrared, will no longer be used for this purpose.

This amendment includes changes in Volume 1 as outlined below. Please refer to redline/strikeout text herein:

- Volume 1, Part 2 Environmental Resources, page 2-174

A redline/strike copy of the amended page has been included with this submittal. The required C1/C2 forms are also included. If you have any question or concern with this submittal please feel free to call myself at (435) 687-4712 or Dennis Oakley at (435) 687-4825.

Sincerely,

Kenneth S. Fleck
Kenneth Fleck

Manager of Geology and Environmental Affairs

Enclosures: C1/C2 Forms
Volume 1, Part 2 Environmental Resources, page 2-174

cc file

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

PacifiCorp

Deer Creek Mine

C/015/0018

Amendment to Remove the commitment to conduct periodic vegetation surveys using color and color infrared photographs from the Deer Creek Mine Permit, Pacificorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Emery County, Utah

C1/C2 Forms

APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING

Permit Change New Permit Renewal Exploration Bond Release Transfer

Permittee: PacifiCorp

Mine: Deer Creek Mine

Permit Number: C/015/0018

Title: Amendment to Remove the Commitment to Conduct Periodic Vegetation Surveys Using Color and Color Infrared Aerial Photographs, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Emery County, Utah

Description, Include reason for application and timing required to implement:

This survey method has not worked during the time period that it was being used.

Instructions: If you answer yes to any of the first eight (gray) questions, this application may require Public Notice publication.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? Acres: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> increase <input type="checkbox"/> decrease. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO# _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 3. Does the application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 4. Does the application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 5. Does the application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 6. Does the application require or include public notice publication? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 7. Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 8. Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies?
<i>Explain:</i> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 15. Does the application require or include soil removal, storage or placement? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps or calculation? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 22. Does the application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities? |

Please attach four (4) review copies of the application. If the mine is on or adjacent to Forest Service land please submit five (5) copies, thank you. (These numbers include a copy for the Price Field Office)

I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments, undertakings, and obligations, herein.

Kenneth Fleck
Print Name

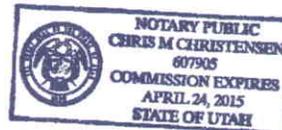
Kenneth S. Fleck
Sign Name, Position, Date

Manager of Environmental Affairs

7/8/2011

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of July, 2011

Chris M. Christensen
Notary Public



My commission Expires:

Attest: State of Utah
County of Emery

April 24, 2015 } ss:

For Office Use Only:

Assigned Tracking
Number:

Received by Oil, Gas & Mining

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

PacifiCorp

Deer Creek Mine

C/015/0018

Amendment to Remove the commitment to conduct periodic vegetation surveys using color and color infrared photographs from the Deer Creek Mine Permit, Pacificorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018, Emery County, Utah

Volume 1, Part 2 Environmental Resources, page 2-174
Redline/Strikeout Copy

VEGETATION MONITORING PLAN - DEER CREEK MINE R645-301-321

The purpose of this monitoring plan is to define and establish a system to locate, measure, and quantify the progressive ~~or regressive impacts~~ ~~and final effects of the underground mining activities~~ on vegetation at the Deer Creek mine ~~on vegetation~~. The monitoring system will utilize techniques which will provide a continuing record of change over time and an analytical method for location and measurement of a sufficient number of points located on surface areas ~~that will be impacted by underground mining~~. The monitoring shall be an extension of the baseline data as outlined in the Deer Creek PAP Volume 1.

Aerial photography taken annually up to present (2009) ~~will be~~ has been used for delineation of vegetative types, documentation of changes in vegetation and detection and monitoring of stressed vegetation. ~~There has been no detected stress or any other impacts to vegetation using aerial photography.~~

~~Because stress to vegetation within the permit area is so much more subject to the natural forces in nature, (fire, insect infestation, drought, etc.) aerial photography will no longer be used.~~

~~Infrared photography was taken of impacted surface areas during September, 1987. This will be repeated in 1992 and continued on a five year schedule.~~ Reference area qualitative and quantitative monitoring at the Deer Creek Mine has been conducted at least on five year intervals in the past. Qualitative and quantitative monitoring was last conducted in 2007 and will continue on five year intervals through mine through reclamation and bond release.

~~Each vegetation type mapped and monitored will be based on a~~

~~dominant overstory and a dominant understory species to be consistent with Unita Southwestern Coal Region Data Adequacy Standards. The details of monitoring and analyses will be developed in cooperation with the US Forest Service.~~

The vegetation monitoring information for reference areas and reclamation sites and an will be evaluationed of the impacts of mining on vegetation will be and submitted in an annual report following the year in which monitoring is conducted.

SOILS INFORMATION R645-301-200

Portal and support facility areas for the Deer Creek Mine are cut into steep, nearly perpendicular rock cliffs. The areas are dominated by rock outcrop, rubble land, and shallow soils.

Nowhere in the vicinity of the mine is there a source of material which would usually be referred to as "topsoil". Soil tests on the disturbed and undisturbed areas and coal waste show that the materials in the portal area should support selected vegetative materials. These test results, therefore, preclude the recommendation for procurement of topsoil for reclamation since the exposed materials are suitable growth media if properly managed. The one exception is that if during mining operations toxic substances are concentrated, it will be necessary to sample these areas periodically and take the necessary reclamation measures to dispose of or cover the areas in order to assure success of revegetation attempts. Results of soil analyses are summarized in Part 4, Reclamation Plan.

The applicant commits to fulfilling the requirements of