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TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

May 19, 2011

TO: Internal File

THRU: Jim Smith, Team Lead *JS 06/06/11*

FROM: James Owen, Reclamation Engineer *JO*

RE: Phase II & III Bond Release 9th East Portal Area, PacifiCorp, Deer Creek Mine, C/015/0018 Task ID# 3726

SUMMARY:

On May 17, 2011, representatives of the Division of Oil Gas & Mining conducted a Phase II & III Bond Release Inspection of 9th East Portal Area at PacifiCorp's Deer Creek Mine. This memo addresses the engineering related reclamation issues that were identified during the inspection. This memo addresses compliance with the engineering section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules (R645-301-500).

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

RECLAMATION PLAN

BACKFILLING AND GRADING

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.15, 817.102, 817.107; R645-301-234, -301-537, -301-552, -301-553, -302-230, -302-231, -302-232, -302-233.

Analysis:

The material used to backfill the disturbed area was graded to a slope which is compatible with the approved postmining land use and which provides adequate drainage and long-term stability. There were not highwall remnants that pose a hazard to the public health and safety or to the environment.

Findings:

Contents and information provided are sufficient enough to meet the minimum requirements of this section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules.

MINE OPENINGS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 817.13, 817.14, 817.15; R645-301-513, -301-529, -301-551, -301-631, -301-748, -301-765, -301-748.

Analysis:

Three portals were reclaimed within the 9th East Portal Area. Each opening was managed as approved by the Division. Permanent closure measures were designed to prevent access to the mine workings by people, livestock, fish and wildlife, machinery and to keep acid or other toxic drainage from entering ground or surface waters.

The portals were permanently closed to all underground mining activities, and were sealed and backfilled as required by the Division and consistent with the requirements of 30 CFR Section 75.1711.

Findings:

Contents and information provided are sufficient enough to meet the minimum requirements of this section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules.

ROAD SYSTEMS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 701.5, 784.24, 817.150, 817.151; R645-100-200, -301-513, -301-521, -301-527, -301-534, -301-537, -301-732.

Analysis:

The road was reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan, and was done as soon as practicable after it was no longer needed for mining and reclamation operations. The reclamation included: closing the road to traffic; removing all bridges and culverts, removing of road-surfacing materials, reshaping cut and fill slopes to complement the natural drainage pattern of the surrounding terrain, scarifying the roadbed, replacing topsoil and revegetation of disturbed surfaces.

Findings:

Contents and information provided are sufficient enough to meet the minimum requirements of this section of the Utah Coal Mining Rules.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The bond release is recommended for approval at this time.