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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Reclamation and Enforcement

POST OFFICE BLDG. RM. 270

1823 STOUT STREET

DENVER, COLORADO 80202

ACT/015/0188



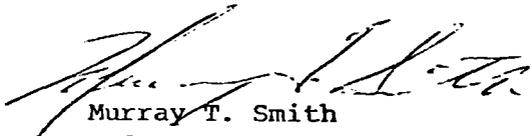
August 16, 1979

Mr. Ron Daniels
Co-ordinator of Mine Land Div.
Div. Oil and Gas
Dept. Nat. Resources, Salt Lake City, Ut. 84116
Dear Ron:

Enclosed please find copies of on-site inspection reports. The inspections were conducted within the State of Utah during the period of August 2, 1979

If you have any questions or problems, please contact this office.

Sincerely,


Murray T. Smith
Federal Lands Coordinator

REGION V ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

UTAH POWER & LIGHT
WILBERG MINE
P.O. BOX 899
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84110

DATE: August 2, 1979
TIME: 12 noon - 4:00 p.m.
WEATHER: Chris Shingleton, Director of Services
John Bootle, Senior Mining Engineer
Rodger Fry, Geologist
Ed Agoston, Geologist
STATE OFFICIAL: Jim Smith
CITIZENS: Ted Crawford, Land Owner
Vince Lamarra, Limnologist, Utah State University
Dan Black, Graduate Student, Utah State University
TYPE OF INSPECTION: Citizen's Complaint

GENERAL COMMENTS

On July 30, 1979 Region V of the Office of Surface Mining received a citizen's complaint by telephone from Mr. Ted Crawford of Salt Lake City, Utah. The complaint concerned a 300 acre parcel of land that he owns which is above Utah Power and Light Company's Wilberg Mine which is approximately seven miles north-west of Orangeville, Utah.

Mr. Crawford claimed that surface damage has occurred as a result of the underground mining operations conducted by Utah Power and Light. The area in question was inspected.

The area is located along Mr. Crawford's north property line which is the section line for Sec. 21, T17S, R7E. The damaged area is approximately 100-150 feet in length, and consists of slumping of the ground. The slump is located on a natural slope of 1½:1 or 2:1. The slumping is along a line just outside of the property line. Along this line it appears that the ground has dropped 15 inches to 2 feet. There are also two areas inside the property line that appear to be small landslides. Each slide is about 35 to 50 feet in width, and approximately 100 feet in length.

Trees along the line where the ground has slumped are dead Aspen trees. It appears that the roots may have been sheared. The dead trees and a line of trees along this line, also show signs that the ground has been moving in the past. "S" trunks were common on the trees along this region.

It was determined that the closest underground mining operations to the area of slumping are from Utah Power and Light's Deer Creek Mine. The current operators have undermined an area about one half mile east of the slump. This was determined from a map supplied by Utah Power and Light. The type of mining currently used in the Deer Creek Mine is room and pillar. According to Mr. Bootle, the Wilberg longwall operations will undermine the problem area sometime around 1989 - 1990.

CONCLUSION

It appeared to this inspector that the damage at the Crawford property is natural slumping. The area has steep slopes and the soil's parent material is unconsolidated material which appears to have raveled down from the terrace above. According to Mr. Agoston the unconsolidated material was in the North Horn Formation.

Observations at the site showed that the area is unstable. Underground mining using the longwall method may cause subsidence and further damage to the area.



THOMAS E. EMMETT
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST