Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/015/019

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: September 6, 1979

Explanation:

Memo to Coal File.

cc:

File in:
C/ 015, 019, Internal
Refer to:
- ☐ **Confidential**
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Date _____ For additional information

September 6, 1979

Memo to Coal File:

RE: Utah Power & Light
Wilberg Mine
ACT/015/018b
and
Deer Creek Mine
ACT/015/018a
Emery County, Utah

On August 2, 1979, an on-site inspection of Mr. E.S. Crawford's East Mountain property in Emery County was performed by State and federal officials and Utah Power and Light Company representatives at Mr. Crawford's request. Jim Smith, Reclamation Soils Specialist, represented the State Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and Tom Ehmett, Reclamation Specialist, represented the Region V Office of Surface Mining. Utah Power and Light Company personnel present were Chris Shingleton, Director of Services; John Bootle, Senior Mining Engineer, Rodger Fry, Exploration Geologist; and Ed Agoston, Exploration Geologist and Hydrologist. Also present, besides Mr. Crawford, were Vince Lamarra, Professor of Limnology at Utah State University, and Dan Black, a graduate student from Utah State University. Mr. Lamarra is also Mr. Crawford's son-in-law.

Mr. Crawford owns the surface of approximately 300 acres of land above Utah Power and Light Company's underground Wilberg and Deer Creek Coal Mines. The purpose of the visit was to view surface damage, specifically subsidence, which Mr. Crawford claims is a result of Utah Power and Light's underground mining operations.

The area of immediate concern is adjacent to Mr. Crawford's north property line of Section 21, Township 17 South, Range 7 East. The area is just below the highest elevation on a relatively steep south facing slope with the predominant vegetation being an aspen community. According to Mr. Agoston this was the top of the North Horn Formation.

Upon inspection of the disturbance it was determined that the damage was not due to subsidence, but was a soil slump about 150 feet long which had naturally taken place. The dead trees were probably the result of root shearing as the soil moved down the slope. The area is naturally unstable due to a combination

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of many factors such as the geology and the unconsolidated surface material, the soil characteristics, the steep slope, and climatic conditions. The instability of the area was evidenced by older slides in the vicinity and the characteristic curving of the tree trunks.

According to Mr. Bootle, the nearest mining activity under Mr. Crawford's property is approximately one-half mile east and longwall operations are not anticipated under this area until sometime around 1989. The depth of overburden from the top of the lower coal seam to the surface is in excess of 1,000 feet.

Mr. Crawford indicated some concern regarding mining in the fault zone, but Mr. Bootle stated that the fault would not be mined and that a buffer zone approximately 150 feet wide would be left. Other concerns of Mr. Crawford which were discussed dealt primarily with the identification and monitoring of springs in the area, his water rights, and Utah Power and Light Company's plans to handle any water problems which may arise due to their underground mining operations and possible subsidence. One additional item which Mr. Crawford felt was a problem concerned a drill pad on adjacent Forest Service land that had not been reclaimed to his satisfaction. He was advised to consult with the Forest Service regarding this matter.

Mr. Lamarra also indicated that they (the Crawfords) were planning to construct a 10,000 square meter pond on the property near the cabin and stock it with trout. The pond would be 5 to 6 feet deep and would be fed by Mary Ann Spring.

JAMES W. SMITH, JR. JWS
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

JWS/te

cc: Mr. E.S. Crawford
Mr. Murray Smith, O.S.M.
Mr. Chris Shingleton, U.P.& L.