



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

August 19, 1986

Mr. C. E. Shingleton
Director of Property Management
Mining Division
Utah Power & Light Company
1407 West North Temple
P.O. Box 899
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110

FILE COPY

Dear Mr. Shingleton:

Re: Initial Review of MRP Amendment Plans, Request to Modify East Mountain Spring Monitoring Plan, Utah Power & Light Company, Wilberg and Deer Creek Mine, ACT/015/018 & ACT/015/019 (86A), Folder 4 & 9, Emery County, Utah

This letter is forwarded as a follow-up to the "conditional approval" letter sent to you on August 14, 1986. Please disregard that letter as it was sent inadvertently and I apologize for any misunderstanding or confusion it may have caused.

The review of Utah Power & Light Company's plans originally received March 31, 1986 which requested a change in the East Mountain Spring Monitoring Plan has been completed. The U.S. Forest Service forwarded comments on the proposed monitoring change request to the Office of Surface Mining. The Division was subsequently notified of the USFS concerns (copy attached).

It is our understanding that the USFS does not concur with the company's request for change. Pursuant to our federally approved regulatory program, the Division must include all other federal requirements and conditions as part of our approval process when a proposal is on or may affect federal lands.

Division geologist, Rick Smith has performed an indepth review of the request for change and has prepared a technical memo which contains a summary and recommendations. This memo will be forwarded to the Forest Service and DSM. Once both agencies have had an opportunity to provide comment on this documentation, the Division will be prepared to direct its final decision on this proposal to Utah Power & Light Company.

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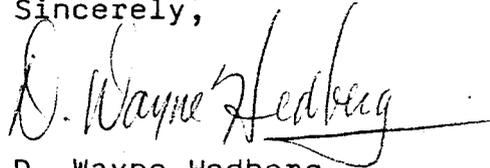
C. E. Shingleton

ACT/015/018 & ACT/015/019

August 19, 1986

The Division cannot approve Utah Power & Light's request to change the spring monitoring program without USFS and OSM concurrence. The proposal cannot be approved until all concerns have been adequately addressed. Should you have questions or additional concerns, please contact me or Rick Smith, Division geologist. Please accept our apologies for the unexpected delay in responding to your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Wayne Hedberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor/
Reclamation Hydrologist

jvb

Enclosure

cc: A. Klein

R. Christensen

L. Braxton

R. Smith

J. Whitehead

8992R 67-68



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

file 105/015/015
cc. T. Merson
R. Smith

JUN 11 1986

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton, Administrator
Mineral Resource Development and Reclamation Program
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Braxton:

Enclosed are the U.S. Forest Service comments on the proposed changes to the spring and seep monitoring plan for the Deer Creek mine. These need to be addressed in order for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement to concur with the proposed change.

If you have any questions, please call Rick Lawton or Richard Holbrook at (303) 844-2896.

Sincerely,

Melvin L. Shilling, Chief
Mining Analysis Division

Enclosure

OR

RECEIVED
JUN 13 1986

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-LaSal
National Forest

599 West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

JUN - 1 9 5

WESTERN TECHNICAL CENTER

Reply to: 2820

Date: May 28, 1986

Rick Lawton
OSM - Reclamation and Enforcement
Brooks Towers
1020 15th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Mr. Lawton:

The Forest Service has reviewed the proposal by Utah Power and Light Company to eliminate certain springs from their monitoring program as a permanent change. We do not concur with the permanent elimination of springs 79-25, 79-30, 79-31, 79-32, and 79-33 from the current monitoring program. Since the springs are situated within an area that is not scheduled to be mined during the next ten years, the monitoring of the springs can be temporarily postponed, except for 79-32. This spring should be kept in the study recession group. Monitoring of the other four springs must again commence at least three years prior to the area being mined. This would provide approximately seven years relief between monitoring periods for the four springs.

Utah Power and Light Company also indicates that eliminating the five springs would reduce their monitoring number by seven. Is this a number mistake or have two more springs been proposed to be dropped from monitoring?

There has not been enough information provided to justify the deletion of spring 79-32 from the current monitoring program and add spring 79-29 to it. Spring 79-32 is located at the contact of the KPR and TKn, while spring 79-29 is in the middle of TKn. What flow characteristics are similar between the two springs? Additional justification will have to be provided and evaluated prior to a decision being made.

If there are any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

W. H. Boley

for
REED C. CHRISTENSEN
Forest Supervisor

July 1, 1986

TO: Coal File

FROM: Richard V. Smith, Geologist

RE: Response to U.S. Forest Service Comments on Proposed Utah Power & Light Company Changes in East Mountain Spring Monitoring Program

Utah Power and Light has requested that springs 79-25, 79-30, 79-31, 79-32 and 79-33 be eliminated from their monitoring program and the suite of springs utilized for recession analyses be modified by substituting spring 79-29 for spring 79-32.

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) reviewed the proposed changes in the East Mountain Spring Monitoring Program and forwarded their comments to the federal regulatory agency. Subsequently, USFS comments were forwarded to the Division for resolution prior to federal regulatory agency approval. The remainder of this memorandum is directed towards addressing USFS comments.

The springs that Utah Power and Light proposes to eliminate have been monitored as follows:

	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	Total	
79-25	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	times
79-30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	
79-31	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	
79-32	1	1	1	1	1	4	5	14	
79-33						1	1	2	

The annual Hydrologic Monitoring Report for 1985 indicates Utah Power and Light accessed 64 springs to derive flow and temperature data. Accordingly, elimination of the five above noted springs will reduce the total number of monitoring stations to 59.

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Memo to Coal File
Ea. Mtn. Spring Monitoring
July 1, 1986

Twelve springs were monitored for the East Mountain Recession Study during 1985. Substituting Spring 79-29 (5.3 gpm avg.) for Spring 79-32 (2.30 gpm avg.) will not change the total number of stations utilized for recession analyses. Although Spring 79-32 and Spring 79-29 do not occur within the identical stratigraphic horizon in the North Horn Formation, the operator monitors seven other springs at the North Horn Formation/Price River Formation contact including 79-23 for spring recession analyses.

The Division approves Utah Power and Light's proposed changes in the East Mountain Monitoring Program on the basis of:

1. Adequate baseline data have been derived for the subject springs;
2. Future permit renewals that encompass the area where the springs are located will require updated baseline data according to the Division's Water Monitoring Guidelines.
3. Adequate data have been derived to conduct recession curves for Spring 79-32. Data from Spring 79-29 will provide additional characterization of aquifer properties within the North Horn Formation.

BASED ON WHAT?

djh
9206R-27