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AC 015/019 #2

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JUN 28 1989
DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

3482
U-47978
(U-067)

Moab District
P.O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

JUN 26 1989

Mr. Bart Hyita
Manager, Technical Services
Utah Power and Light Mining Division
P. O. Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

Dear Mr. Hyita:

On February 22, 1989, Utah Power and Light Company (UP&L) submitted changes to the Cottonwood/Wilberg life-of-mine resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2). Many of the changes involve allocation of the far north reserves in both the Hiawatha and Blind Canyon seams to either the Hunter Plant or Huntington Plant through a system of parallel belt lines and in-mine coal raises.

Longwall panels are oriented to fully utilize the longwall mining method and to incorporate Mine Safety and Health Agency requirements concerning bleeder systems. The life-of-mine R2P2 also shows the recent deletion of the Blind Canyon and Cottonwood seams in the south lease (U-47978) area. In addition, a ventilation breakout portal is planned in the southwest end of the south lease.

BLM has evaluated the plan and agrees in principal to most of the changes. However, we will need completed mining plans for the Grimes Wash drainage area which show that the area needs further hydrologic studies before multi-seam mining can take place.

The original R2P2 submittal, which had longwall panels planned for this area, was previously recommended for approval in 1982. This approval was forwarded to Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (UDOGM) for the final mining and reclamation plan (MRP) issuance. However, we were unaware that the original R2P2 might need revisions due to special stipulations for hydrologic values in the MRP. BLM is still of the opinion that multi-seam longwall mining can be accomplished with minimal impacts to water resources. In any event, mining plans addressing coal recovery will have to be submitted for the northern area of the Cottonwood Mine before mining is allowed in this area.

Please contact us or our field engineers in Price if you have questions.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ GENE NODINE

District Manager

cc: SD, Utah (U-921)
AM, SRRA
DOGM, SLC

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