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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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June 14, 1989

TO: Richard V. Smith, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Tom Munson, Reclamation Hydrologist

RE: Small Area Exemptions, Utah Power and Light Company, Des-Bee-Dove Mine, ACT/015/017; Deer Creek Mine, ACT/015/018; and Wilberg/Cottonwood Mines, ACT/015/019, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

## Synopsis

Utah Power and Light Company submitted small area exemption requests for their Des-Bee-Dove, Deer Creek, and Wilberg/Cottonwood mines. This memo reviews that request in light of the recent Small Area Exemption Policy of April 12, 1989.

## Analysis

The current policy requires a Level I Small Area Exemption (SAE) or a Level II (SAE) determination to be made regarding each area qualifying for an SAE.

It seems appropriate that a copy of our guidelines be sent to the operator, and the operator resubmit their proposal identifying SAE Level I or Level II for each area, as well as submit a map which identifies the location and size of each area and placement of alternative controls.

The operator should be forewarned that the Cottonwood Disturbed Area encompasses only 42.5 acres and the proposal is that 11.78 acres be declared SAE's. This is in excess of the 15 percent limit set for SAEs.

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It appears that the Cottonwood Fan Portal area is the largest SAE area, and that it is possible it can be considered unique because of its geographic location and currently in-place sediment controls.

**Recommendation**

The operator resubmit their proposal identifying SAE Level I's or Level II's and the rationale behind selection of any Level II areas. A map showing the location and placement of alternative controls must be submitted with the new proposal.

djh
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