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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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September 5, 1995

Val Payne
Sr Environmental Engineer
Energy West Mining
PacifiCorp Electric Operations
PO Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

*file and Permit Binder
TA Section*

RE: MSHA Ponds, Cottonwood Mine, PacifiCorp Electric Operations,
ACT/015/019-95G, Folder #3, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Payne:

The aforementioned amendment is approved effective September 5, 1995. The approval is based on the information you submitted together with the regulatory findings cited below.

Followup Action By Permittee

Within 30 days after this project is completed, please submit:

Thirteen copies of:

- Certified Map (R645-301-512 & R645-301-740).
- Certified "as constructed" pond details.
- Plates 3-29 through 3-38 as appropriate.

Project Description

In summary, the key features of this project are as follows:

MODIFICATION TO NORTH & SOUTH SEDIMENT PONDS. The north and south ponds at the Cottonwood Mine are proposed to be modified. The reason for the modification stems from a decision by MSHA on 1/13/95 that the ponds are classified as MSHA ponds (see attachment #1). On 6/9/95, MSHA approved the designs (see attachment #2).

MODIFICATION TO NORTH & SOUTH SEDIMENT PONDS (-continued-).
The modification requested by MSHA subsequently designed by the permittee and approved by MSHA involved these components:

- ponds were assigned a low hazard rating.
- existing spillways are adequate.
- redesigning the trash racks and installing anti-vortex plates.
- increasing the embankment height to provide 3' of freeboard.
- scarifying existing embankment before placing and compacting new embankment material.
- inspection frequency changed from quarterly to monthly.
- new MSHA identification pond signs.

Findings

- (1) AMENDMENT APPLICATION. The applicant submitted a complete and accurate amendment application.
- (2) DOGM PERMIT STATUS. The addition lies within the current permit.
- (3) ACTIVE MINE. The area is included in an active approved coal mining and reclamation operation and is within the existing disturbed area.
- (4) LAND STATUS. The surface estate is owned by the U.S. Government under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service.
- (5) OTHER APPROVAL/COORDINATION.
 - On 8/30/95, the modification of the ponds was discussed with USFS and concurred with the modification of the ponds.
 - On 8/31/95, the State Engineer at Price by phone call, concurred with the modification of the ponds.
 - On 8/31/95, the Department of Health at Price by phone call concurred with the modification of the ponds.
 - On 8/31/95, BLM at Price by phone call, concurred with the modification of the ponds.

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(5) OTHER APPROVAL/COORDINATION -continued-.

●On 9/1/95, DWR at Price by phone call, concurred with the modification of the ponds.

●The material to increase the height of the embankment will come from UDOT pit, which has been tested and subsequently approved by the Division.

(6) IMPACTS. The project does not have any material adverse impacts to hydrologic balance or any existing critical habitat.

(7) RECLAMATION AND BONDING. The approved reclamation plan associated with the removal of the ponds is adequate. Scope of reclamation work has not increased; therefore, no increase in bonding is required. Current surety bond is adequate.

(8) RECORD UPDATE. The DOGM Technical Analysis has been updated to reflect information pertinent to this amendment.

MRP updated pages 3-32 and 3-33 as submitted are approved. These will be submitted to you and others as a complete package when construction has been completed. Other documents as cited in "Followup Action by Permittee", will also be submitted to you and others at the same time.

Sincerely,



Wm. J. Malencik
Reclamation Specialist

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Enclosure

cc: James Fulton, OSM, Denver
John Kuzar, MSHA, Denver
Mark Bailey, BLM, Price
Janette Kaiser, USFS, Manti-LaSal
Mark Page, DWR, Price
Dave Ariotti, DEQ, Price
Robert Valentine, DWR, SLC
Pam Grubaugh-Littig, DOGM, SLC
Joe Helfrich, DOGM, SLC
Karl Houskeeper, Pacificorp, Huntington