

0028



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

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Ted Stewart
Executive Director
James W. Carter
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
(801) 538-5340
(801) 359-3940 (Fax)

March 31, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor 

FROM: Wm. J. Malencik, Reclamation Specialist 

RE: Waste Rock Site Gate Relocation, PacifiCorp, Cottonwood Mine,
ACT/015/019-97B, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

SUMMARY:

The Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining on March 27, 1997, received at the Price Field Office a permit amendment from PacifiCorp. The amendment concerns moving the Cottonwood Waste Rock access road security gate about 1000 feet to the east. The proposed gate will be located about 150' west of State Road 57. The reason for moving the gate is vandalism. The current gate cannot be observed from the highway. The proposed gate location will not have this problem.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

Support Facilities/Primary Road

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-526.200
R645-301-527.



Analysis:

Support Facilities/Primary Road

The construction project involves moving the current gate to a more propitious location. Natural or other barriers will prevent other vehicle access immediately adjacent to the gate. The gate is required by MSHA and federal regulations as related to security on the waste rock site. Vandals have cut locks that has resulted in problems for PacifiCorp.

Findings:

- 1) The applicant has submitted a complete and accurate application except for signing drawing CM-10826-WB.
- 2) The gate is located on federal land under the administration of BLM.
- 3) The gate is located on an area within the current active operation coal mine permitted disturbed waste rock area.
- 4) The gate is located on a road classified as a primary road under Utah Coal Rules.
- 5) Relocating the gate will not alter the current disturbed drainage system nor have any adverse impact on any other environmental components.
- 6) There are no special stipulations that are required.
- 7) Letters have been sent to MSHA and BLM soliciting their comments.
- 8) Moving the gate does not change the reclamation plan nor is a change in the reclamation bond necessary.

Page 3
File/J. Helfrich
ACT/015/019-97B
March 31, 1997

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend approval of the amendment unless you have a problem with finding #1. PacifiCorp, I believe, takes the position they cannot certify a map until the project is completed and the gate is in place. Therefore two options exist:

- a) Consider finding #1 on certification a deficiency, or
- b) Require certified maps to be submitted after construction.

I recommend option b) rather than option a).

sd
A:\AMENDMEN\MEMOS\GATE.97B