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

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Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

December 16, 1999

To: Internal File # 2

Thru: Pam Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor *PGL*

From: Wm. J. Malencik, Reclamation Specialist *WJM*

RE: Amendment to Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine Permit for Phase III/Final Reclamation of the Miller Canyon Portals of the Cottonwood Mine, Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine, PacifiCorp, ACT/015/019

This responds to PacifiCorp's Miller Canyon proposal for phase III bond release. PacifiCorp stated they would not request a reduction in the current surface bonding. Also, stated that they have not requested a change in their UPDES permit. In fact, in writing they have committed to continue the water monitoring as per the UD PES permit.

FACTS The three portals are located in a steep walk-in canyon and contains 0.02 acres. The area was reclaimed in June 1999.

UPDES PERMIT The project is similar to Channel Canyon with the exception of water seepage. In May 1999, the company identified minor seeps in portal's two and three. Prior discharges average less than 20 GPM, during the period 1994 to 1996 less than 5 GPM, and since then the estimate is less than 3 GPM, difficult to measure. The company will continue to perform water monitoring under the existing UPDES permit.

RECLAMATION PacifiCorp did a reclamation job over and above what the original reclamation plan called for. They were able to do this because of the availability of a PacifiCorp Portland-based chopper.

As a result of the chopper, they had about 150 separate loads of materials. This included rock, topsoil, filter fabric, mulch, seed, and the sagacious use of materials readily available on site that were re-arranged included rock, dead and down trees. The coal seam was covered. There is no evidence that this area was a portal.

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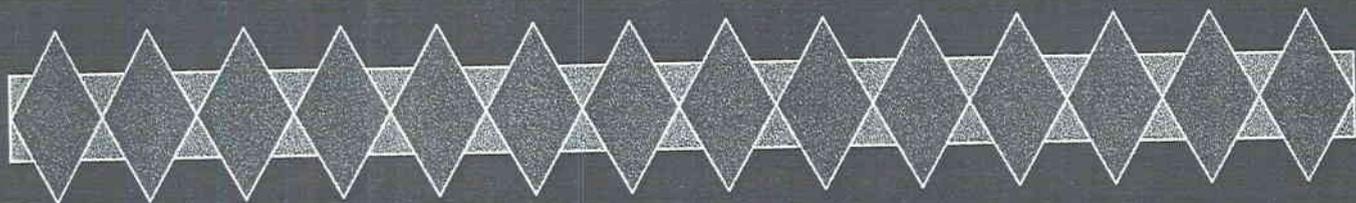
RECOMMENDATION

- 1) I talked to Carter Reed today. He stated they have no problem with the amendment providing the mine continues to perform water monitoring for a period of ten years. Explained to him the similarities between Channel Canyon and Miller Canyon portals. The only difference is the water coming out of portals #2 and #3.
- 2) I recommend, when you receive the official PacifiCorp amendment on Miller Canyon, you request a recommendation from USFS.
- 3) This constitutes my formal report on the PacifiCorp amendment.

sd
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cc: Carter Reed, Jeff Defreest, USFS, Price
Chuck Semborski, PacifiCorp, Huntington

MILLER CANYON RECLAMATION PROJECT JUNE 1999

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**MILLER
CANYON**



**RECLAMATION
CREW**



