



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor  
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0003

January 22, 1986

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
(P402 457 294)

Mr. Melvin A. Coonrod  
Permitting & Compliance  
Co-Op Mining Company  
P.O. Box 1245  
Huntington, Utah 84528

Dear Mr. Coonrod:

RE: MRP Amendment, Mine Sequence Change & New Ventilation  
Portal, Co-Op Mining Company, Bear Canyon Mine,  
ACT/015/025, #3, Emery County, Utah

The Division has completed the technical review of Co-Op Mining Company's plans received December 19, 1986. The application for MRP amendment requests approval of an underground mining sequence change and the addition of a new ventilation portal at the Bear Canyon Mine.

The application is incomplete and the Division's approval cannot be issued at this time. Please review the attached technical memorandums which outline the technical deficiencies which must be addressed. Please provide a complete response to the remaining concerns by February 7, 1986.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience in providing the requested information which is necessary to complete this permitting action. Should you have questions or concerns please contact me, Pam Grubaugh-Littig or Kathryn Mutz of the technical staff.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permit Supervisor/  
Reclamation Hydrologist

dwh  
cc: Allen Klein  
Gene Nodine  
A Team  
8992R-42

Lowell Braxton  
John Whitehead

January 8, 1986

TO: Coal File

FROM: Kathryn M. Mutz, Reclamation Biologist *KMM*

RE: MRP Amendment, New Ventilation Portal, Co-Op Mining Company, Bear Canyon Mine, ACT/O15/O25, #3, Emery County, Utah

Summary:

Because of the limited surface disturbance planned for the proposed ventilation portal, little adverse impact on wildlife is expected. Revegetation should be minimal.

UMC 817.97 Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Values

The operator reports no raptor nests within 1/2 mile of the new portal according to their latest surveys. The operator should be aware of an inactive buteo nest just northeast of the center of Section 23 and a stick nest just north of the entrance to Blind Canyon (U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service [USFWS], January 7, 1986). These nests and associated birds are not likely to be disturbed by construction/operation activity, but the operator should be aware of their existence and notify the Division and USFWS if raptor activity around the nests is observed.

The proposed portal is within "Critical Elk Winter Range" (MRP, Plate 10-1). The operator should address the effect of winter construction on animals in the area and propose measures to limit and/or mitigate adverse impacts.

UMC 817.111-.116 Revegetation

Revegetation at the site should be minimal. The amount of coal which must be cleaned up from slopes below the portal may be greater than expected and may, therefore, require revegetation. The operator must commit to spot revegetation where necessary.

kmm  
cc: John Whitehead  
0528R-36

December 31, 1985

TO: Coal File

FROM: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Reclamation Engineer *pgl*

RE: Blind Canyon Intake Portal Amendment (submitted December 17, 1985), Co-Op Mining Company, Bear Canyon Mine, ACT/015/025, #3, Emery County, Utah

Technical Deficiencies

The applicant states that "any coal debris which may crumble and fall down on the slope will be retrieved by hand to whatever degree is reasonable." This statement is nebulous and must be addressed as to quality and quantity of clean up of the slopes due to the construction (UMC 817.101).

The reclamation of the portals will utilize a "D-2"(?) dozer to push panels of coal into the portal and then install a seal. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulations require that the portals be filled with incombustible material. Therefore, the applicant must revise this plan and backfill this portal with incombustible material, then seal pursuant to UMC 817.15.

btb

cc: John Whitehead  
9075R-22