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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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April 19, 1990

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor
FROM: Susan M. White, Reclamation Biologist *SMW*
RE: Middle Seam, Proposed Blind Canyon Portals, Co-Op Mining Company, Bear Canyon Mine, ACT/015/025, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Synopsis and Analysis

Co-Op Mining Company is proposing two new portals in Blind Canyon, a fan ventilation portal and an explosion door. One intake portal already exists in Blind Canyon adjacent to the proposed portals.

The portals are proposed to be built from inside the mine with a continuous miner. No disturbances outside of the portals are proposed and the only surface access would be by foot. Any coal debris which falls downslope will be retrieved by hand. No drainage control is proposed because this is a dry area of the mine and the portal is concealed in the coal seam below an overhanging ledge.

Reclamation of the portals would be from inside the mine, pushing material 25 feet in distance from the opening and sealing. No revegetation is proposed.

Recommendations

This submittal is not complete and should not be approved until the below-mentioned concerns are addressed.

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The applicant must address how the fan ventilation equipment will be installed and the total area of disturbance. If a pad is built, the applicant must address the type of fill material to be used, prevention of damage to areas below and adjacent to the pad, drainage control, and contemporaneous reclamation.

The applicant states that no raptor nests are present in the area according to the most recent raptor survey. The only raptor survey found in the Permit Application Package was done in 1983. The Division of Wildlife Resources stated that this was inadequate. If the portals are constructed between the middle of January and mid-July, a raptor survey must be done.

djh
AT63/6-7