

June 2, 2003

TO: Internal File

FROM: Priscilla W. Burton, Senior Reclamation Specialist/Soils

RE: Soil Movement and Cut/Fill Balance and Blind Canyon Seam analysis, CO-OP Mining, Bear Canyon Mine, C015025-AM03B-1a

SUMMARY:

On January 27, 2003, the Division received a permit amendment describing the transfer of 1,000 cu yds of soil from the Blind Canyon tunnel development (TS 15) to the Tank Seam reclamation site for use as fill. This transfer of material started a ripple in the cut/fill reclamation plans. There are no changes to the total amount of fill required, only the source of fill. A source of fill for the new Tank Seam portals is the Tipple yard. This revision dated April 22, 2003 provides for testing of the Tipple yard soils for acid/toxic characteristics prior to transfer to the Wild Horse Ridge Tank seam pad. These samples will be in addition to the sampling to be conducted after grading as outlined in Table 8.11-1.

TECHNICAL MEMO

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

RECLAMATION PLAN

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-515, -301-532, -301-533, -301-542, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-751, -301-760, -301-761.

Analysis:

Acid and toxic-forming materials

The submittal describes the placement of soils from the Tipple yard as fill in the Wild Horse Ridge reclamation area TS17. To protect the hydrologic balance of TS 17, all material moved will be sampled according to table 3K-1 prior to transfer. These samples will be in addition to the sampling to be conducted after grading as outlined in Table 8.11-1.

Findings:

The information provided meets the hydrologic balance protection requirements of the Regulations.

RECOMMENDATION:

The application for soil movement is recommended for approval.