

0007

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

March 26, 2007

OK

TO: Internal File

THRU: Jim Smith, Team Lead *JS 04/24/07*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Environmental Scientist III, engineering and bonding *WHW*

RE: Wild Horse Ridge Tank Seam As-Built, Co-op Mining Co., Bear Canyon Mine, C/015/0025, Task ID #2753

SUMMARY:

The Division received the amendment to for the Wild Horse Ridge Tank Seam as-built on October 13, 2006 and was misfiled with another application. The as-built was retrieved on February 22, 2007 and assigned task #2753.

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

OPERATION PLAN

MINING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.2, 784.11; R645-301-231, -301-526, -301-528.

Analysis:

The Permittee met the requirements for this section of the regulations. The Permittee received approval to construct the Tank Seam pad and access road from the Division. After construction, the Permittee provided the Division with as-built maps as well as minor changes to the MRP that show the construction was completed.

The construction consisted of the access road to the Blind Canyon Seam portals and the pad facilities. The Permittee developed two portals at the site and a catch basin to control runoff.

The disturbed area on the as-builts is slightly different than the proposed disturbed area. The Division is aware that some changes are needed to meet the on site conditions.

Findings:

The Permittee met the requirements for this section of the regulations.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF MINING OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731, -302-323.

Analysis:

Mining Facilities Maps

The Permittee met the requirements of this section by providing the Division with an as-built surface facilities map. Plate 5-2G shows the location of the portals, the mine fan and the catch basin.

Certification Requirements

The Permittee meet those requirements by having all appropriate maps certified.

Findings:

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

RECLAMATION PLAN

BACKFILLING AND GRADING

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.15, 817.102, 817.107; R645-301-234, -301-537, -301-552, -301-553, -302-230, -302-231, -302-232, -302-233.

Analysis:

General

The Permittee met the minimum requirements for this section. The as-built maps show the existing topography and the proposed reclaimed topography. The Permittee will be able to reclaim the site the approved reclamation slopes and grades.

Findings:

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RECLAMATION OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-323, -301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731.

Analysis:

Bonded Area Map

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The Permittee met the requirements of this section by providing the Division with maps such as Map 5-2G and Map 5-6G show the disturbed area boundaries.

Reclamation Backfilling And Grading Maps

The Permittee met the requirements of this section by providing the Division with as built maps of the disturbed area, Map 5-2G. In addition, the Permittee provided the Division with updated reclamation maps of the area, Map 5-6G.

Certification Requirements.

The Permittee meet those requirements by having all appropriate maps certified.

Findings:

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

BONDING AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 800; R645-301-800, et seq.

Analysis:

Determination of Bond Amount

The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section. The Permittee must include an updated copy of the Division reclamation cost estimate. The Division's reclamation cost estimate is used to calculate the bond. The Permittee may keep much of the reclamation cost estimate information in the MRP because of the additional information that their estimates contain.

Findings:

The information provided in the proposed amendment is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Before approval, the Permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

R645-301-830.110, and R645-301-140, The Permittee must incorporate a copy of the Division's reclamation cost estimate into the MRP. The Division will supply the Permittee with either an electronic or paper copy of the reclamation cost estimate

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upon request. The Permittee can keep relevant parts of the incorporated reclamation cost estimate in the MRP.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Division should deny the amendment until all of the above mentioned deficiencies have been addressed.