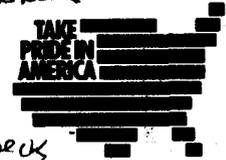




United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
SUITE 310
625 SILVER AVENUE, S.W.
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102

Orig: Mine file
cc. L. Braxton
S. Linsner
J. Halfnich
H. Sandbeck
P. fo



In Reply Refer To:

August 11, 1989

RECEIVED
AUG 14 1989

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton, Deputy Director
Mineral Resources Development and Reclamation Program
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
355 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Re: **Crandall Canyon Mine**

Dear Mr. Braxton:

The July 27, 1989, random sample inspection (RSI) of the Genwal Coal Company, Crandall Canyon Mine, indicated a problem relative to the Ten-Day Notice (TDN) issued during the March 7, 1989, RSI. The TDN was issued for failure to pass disturbed drainage from three areas through a sediment pond before leaving the permit area. The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (the Division) response indicated that the operator would be required to submit revisions to the permit text and maps to support a Small Area Exemption (SAE). On that basis, the Albuquerque Field Office (AFO) found the response appropriate because the operator was taking measures to abate the violation.

The July 27 RSI indicated that the operator submitted information addressing an SAE, and the Division approved the submittal. However, the information submitted by the operator and approved by the Division, apparently did not include one of the areas referenced in the TDN: The Forest Service Parking/Snow Storage Area. Information provided by the Division representative at the time of the July inspection indicated that there was confusion as to the area being located inside the permit boundary. Our inspector was advised that it was on the basis that the area is not inside the permit boundary that it was not included in the SAE. Further discussions with Division representatives determined that the conclusion that the area is outside the permit boundary was in error.

Mr. Lowell P. Braxton

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AFO suggests that the Division re-evaluate the requirement for an SAE at the Forest Service Parking/Snow Storage Area.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Steve Rathbun or me at (505) 766-1486.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Hagen", written in a cursive style.

Robert H. Hagen, Director
Albuquerque Field Office