



State of Utah

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THROUGH: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist *PB*

DATE: April 2, 1993

RE: Chapter 4 Land Use and Air Quality, Genwal Coal Company, Crandall Canyon Mine, Folder #2, ACT/015/032, Emery County, Utah

SUMMARY

Chapter 4 of Genwal's reformatted mining and reclamation plan has been reviewed. The plan does not contain a land use map that covers the entire permit area, and there are no comments concerning the postmining land use from the State of Utah, or ARCO. Comments from the Forest Service on the postmining land use for the road are contained in correspondence in Appendix 1-2, but this appendix should be referenced in Chapter 4.

ANALYSIS

R645-301-411 Land Use Environmental Description

Proposal:

The premining uses of the land were non-developed recreation, native wildlife habitats, and dispersed cattle grazing. Because of the very steep topography, grazing is very limited on the side slopes.

The plan includes a map that shows grazing allotments in part of the permit area.

Emery County has zoned the area CE-1, critical environmental. This zoning designation does not preclude mining. The Manti-LaSal National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan includes the area in four different management units. These are the Leasable Minerals Area, General Big Game Winter Range, Range Forage Production, and the Riparian Management Unit.

The cultural resources surveys revealed one site located near the junction of the Forest Service and Huntington Canyon roads that probably meets the criteria for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The area is outside of Genwal's permit area, and it has been fenced. Within the permit area, there are no public parks, cemeteries, or lands within the National System of Trails or the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The area was previously mined from 1939 to 1955. Approximately 35,000 tons of coal was removed from the Hiawatha seam by room and pillar methods.

Analysis:

R645-301-411.110 requires that the plan include a map and supporting narrative of the uses of the land existing at the time of filing of the application. Plate 4-1 shows oil and gas leases and grazing allotments for leases SL-062648 and U-54762, but it does not show land uses for the right-of-way and the two state leases. Other maps in the plan show vegetation communities in these areas, but they do not show land uses as required by the regulation.

The plan appears to contain information required to satisfy the other sections of this regulation.

Deficiencies:

1. The plan needs to contain a map which shows existing land uses of all land which will be affected by coal mining and reclamation operations.

R645-301-412

Land Use Reclamation Plan

Proposal:

The areas where surface disturbance resulted from mining operations will be restored to its premining usefulness as rangeland, wildlife habitat, and recreational use. No alternative land uses are proposed.

Analysis:

R645-301-412.200 requires that the plan include a copy of comments concerning the proposed postmining land use from the legal or equitable owners of the surface of the permit area and Utah and local government agencies which would have to initiate, implement, approve, or authorize the use of the land following reclamation. The citations from the Manti-LaSal National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan can be

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considered as comments from the Forest Service for most of the disturbed area. The plan states that the road will be left in place pursuant to the wishes of the Forest Service, the surface landowner. Appendix 1-2 contains correspondence from the Forest Service stating that the improved roadway is to be retained beyond the proposed life of the mine but that some reclamation will be required. This appendix needs to be referenced in Chapter 4.

The plan also needs to contain comments on the postmining land use from ARCO as Mountain Coal Company and from the State of Utah.

Deficiencies:

1. The plan needs to contain comments on the postmining land use from ARCO and the State of Utah. Also, comments from the Forest Service on the postmining land use for the road need to be referenced in Chapter 4.

R645-301-420

Air Quality

Proposal:

The plan contains a copy of Genwal's Air Quality Approval Order which includes air quality monitoring and fugitive dust control plans.

Analysis:

Genwal has complied with this regulation.

Deficiencies:

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The plan needs to include a land use map that includes the entire permit area. Also, comments concerning the postmining land use need to be obtained from ARCO and the State of Utah. Comments from the Forest Service concerning the road need to be referenced in Chapter 4.