

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

January 14, 2005

TO: Internal File

THRU: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor

FROM: James D. Smith, Environmental Specialist

RE: IBC modification to lease U-68082, Genwal Resources, Inc., Crandall Canyon Mine, C/015/0032, Task # 2090

SUMMARY:

On October 22, 2004 the Division received an application to modify the Crandall Canyon Mine MRP with an Incidental Boundary Change (IBC) to include a 120-acre addition to federal lease UTU-68082 (the lease modification had not actually been issued at the time the amendment was submitted). The lease modification is located in the Manti-La Sal National Forest, in the W/2NW/4, NW/4SW/4, Section 32, T. 15 S., R. 7 E (USGS Rilda Canyon 7.5-minute quadrangle). There is no surface disturbance associated with this lease modification. Access to the Hiawatha Seam, which is the only seam to be mined, will be from existing workings in the Hiawatha Seam in the Crandall Canyon #1 Mine.

OSM has determined that this is not a Mining Plan Modification.

There is an unrelated, pending amendment to add the South Crandall Canyon Extension (lease UTU-78953) to the Crandall Canyon Mine (Division Task # 2084).

TECHNICAL MEMO

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

Analysis:

Coal Resource and Geologic Information Maps

Plate 6-1, the geology map, and Plate 5-2 (H), the mine plan for the Hiawatha Seam, have been updated to include the 120-acre lease modification IBC in the permit area boundary. Plate 5-2 (H) shows Hiawatha Seam thickness and cover thickness in the IBC area (and South Crandall Canyon Extension), in effect replacing Plates 6-3 and 6-6 for the west side of the Crandall Canyon Mine permit area. Mining projections on Plate 5-2 (H) show one east-west oriented longwall panel extending into the south end of the IBC. Projected subsidence from mining in the IBC is shown on Plate 5-2(H).

Plates 6-4 and 5-2 (BC), which show Blind Canyon Seam thickness, and Plate 6-5, Bear Canyon Seam thickness, have not been updated to include the IBC boundary: there is little or no thickness data for these seams in or adjacent to this limited IBC area, and these seams will not be mined. Plate 6-7, Hiawatha Structure, has structure contours for the IBC area but does not include the lease modification IBC area in the lease boundary.

Findings:

Maps, Plans, and Cross Sections of Resource Information are not sufficient to meet the requirements of the Coal Mining Rules. Before the proposed amendment can be approved, the Permittee needs to provide the following information:

R645-301-622, Plate 5-2 (BC) needs to be updated to show the boundary for the IBC modification to lease U-68082.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The proposed amendment should not be approved at this time.

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