

Outgoing
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OGMCOAL - Re: 015032 Crandall Canyon Mine, East Mountain, slide below Pad #6

From: Priscilla Burton
To: Adam Robison; OGMCOAL
Date: 7/10/2012 11:31 AM
Subject: Re: 015032 Crandall Canyon Mine, East Mountain, slide below Pad #6
CC: Haddock, Daron; Owen, James; Rick Wilcox; Steve Christensen

Hello Adam,

Our assumption is that the slide was caused by downcast spoil that was not retrieved (could not be reached) by the trackhoe when reclaiming Pad #6 above. When the loosely piled spoil got heavy with melting snow pack, it slid down the slope, taking with it the undisturbed topsoil layer beneath. That being the case, if we can stabilize the exposed subsoil, and loose spoil, we can check the erosion along the length of the slide.

We attempted redirect water away from the head cut with the excelsior logs. So far so good. (As the comparison photos that I sent you show).

I'd like to meet you at the site to look at the slide. James Owen, DOGM engineer, can meet us at the site on Friday, July 20. Will that work for you?.

Priscilla

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>>> Adam Robison Monday, July 09, 2012 7:54 AM >>>

Priscilla, I think the problem is in the sub-grade (b & c horizon). At this point installing erosion logs will only compound the problem. This will hold more water that will seep into the b & c horizon and accelerate unraveling of the soil. Again, I think we should consult with a mass wasting specialist.

>>> Priscilla Burton 6/28/2012 10:30 AM >>>

Adam,

The slide area below pad #6 on East Mountain still looks pretty raw. The excelsior logs that were installed last year have retained sediment and helped to establish vegetation at the head of the cut. The site was hand seeded last year, but little growth has resulted. A comparison of 2011 and 2012 photos show that the slide has not enlarged. (2011 and 2012 photos are attached.) To further stabilize the site, I am thinking that hand crews could install excelsior logs on the contour every 15 ft. down the length of the slide to create mini terraces, followed by hand seeding. Do you agree with this approach or do you have another suggestion as to what hand work should be done?

Priscilla.

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