
UTAH OGM COAL PROGRAM MEETING NOTES

Meeting Date: September 7, 2006, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m., BLM Kanab Field Office.

To: Internal File, Coal Hollow Mine, C/025/0005, Task #2567

From: Priscilla Burton *PWB by CN*

Attendees: Bureau of Land Management Kanab Field Office personnel: Rex Smart, Field Office Manager; Dennis Pope, Assistant Field Office Manager; Keith Rigtrup, Land Planner/E.I.S. Project Manager; Hugh Wolfe, Realty Specialist; Tom Christensen, Recreation/Wilderness Specialist; Lisa Church, Biologist and T & E Specialist. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig; D. Wayne Hedberg, and myself - DOGM.

Purpose: To introduce ourselves and discuss the Coal Hollow surface coal mine application.

MEETING SUMMARY:

Using maps from the Mining and Reclamation Plan, the Division briefly described the location of the surface mine, the owners of the fee coal, the proposed mine layout, and mine life. The Division explained the review process and provided a written outline of time frames for the Public Comment Period and Technical Review. Open communication between the Division and the BLM was encouraged.

Both the Division and the Kanab Field Office personnel had become acquainted with the site the previous day. Mining through the sage grouse lek within the proposed permit area was discussed as well as the sage grouse mitigation plan which identifies a sage grouse lek that was previously unknown to the Kanab DWR and BLM. The location of the new lek is on private land within a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU), about 6 miles north of Alton (outside the proposed permit area). There is a possibility that the "new" lek is populated by sage grouse that are members of the Hatch, Utah lek. Ms. Church will be investigating this issue further.

DOGM conveyed the Kane County Commissioners' interest in the impact to the community, the impact to the springs adjacent to and within the permit area, and the proposed trucking route. Discussion of the various proposed haul routes followed.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) document will be written by a third party (being selected now) and overseen by the Kanab Field Office. The Notice of Intent to conduct an EIS has been sent to Washington BLM for review. If approved, the NOI will be published in the Federal Register and "public scoping" will proceed this fall.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS:

The Division will send a copy of the ACR and a digital copy of the mine plan to the BLM Kanab Field Office in care of Keith Rigtrup.