



# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
*Division Director*

July 14, 2015

Kirk Nicholes, Resident Agent  
Alton Coal Development, LLC  
463 North 100 West, Suite 1  
Cedar City, Utah 84720

Subject: Annual Sage Grouse Report, Alton Coal Development, LLC, Coal Hollow Mine, C/025/0005, Task ID #4934

Dear Mr. Nicholes:

The Division has reviewed your application. The Division has identified deficiencies that must be addressed before final approval can be granted. The deficiencies are listed as an attachment to this letter.

The deficiencies authors are identified so that your staff can communicate directly with that individual should questions arise. The plans as submitted are denied. Please resubmit the entire application by no later than August 14, 2015.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5325.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock  
Coal Program Manager

DRH/sqs  
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GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

GREG BELL  
Lieutenant Governor

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## Technical Analysis and Findings

### Utah Coal Regulatory Program

**PID:** C0250005  
**TaskID:** 4934  
**Mine Name:** COAL HOLLOW  
**Title:** ANNUAL SAGE GROUSE REPORT

#### Operation Plan

#### Fish and Wildlife Protection and Enhancement Plan

##### *Deficiencies Details:*

The information in the 2014 annual sage grouse report is not adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations. Prior to approval the following information is required in accordance with R645-301-333;

A copy of the 2012-13 annual sage grouse report;

Appendix numbers for the 2013 and 14 annual sage grouse reports.

The GPS data and associated maps provided by Dr. Frey and;

The following commitment under the Partnership and Collaboration section of the report: ACD will provide funding for three GPS collars for the 2015 trapping season(July 15, 2015-February 28th, 2016). Funding will be provided by no later than July 29th, 2015 to ensure timely placement of collars on the birds. In the years following ACD will continue to support the monitoring efforts by providing funding on an annual basis for two GPS collars or \$8,000 which ever is greater.

jhelfric