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Route to L. Braxton for mine file

Ken Payne
Vice President & General Manager

Subsidiary of
Coastal States
Energy Company

ACT/041/002-87B
#2

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November 24, 1987

Dr. Diane Nielson
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Dear Dr. Nielson:

We are hereby requesting Division approval to construct a new ventilation portal into Quitchupah Canyon in the SW¼ of the SE¼ of Section 29, T21S, R5E, SLB&M. Coastal States Energy Company owns the coal and surface on this parcel. Neal Mortensen, et al, retained an overriding royalty interest on coal produced. The ventilation portal would enter the mine from the south in a small draw. We believe this request can be processed and approved as a minor modification to our approved M&RP.

This proposed ventilation portal will be used as a ventilation intake and as an escapeway for quick escape from the 4 East area of the mine in the event the mine requires evacuation. The portal is also designed to be used as a fan portal in the event another mine fan is later needed to mine the northern most coal reserves. Because of this dual purpose design, a small earthern pad will need to be leveled in the breakout area for the possible future fan installation. No water will be discharged from this portal location.

A partial print of the Accord Lakes USGS 7½ minute quadrangle, Map 1, shows the portal location and surface features. A map of SUFCo's underground workings showing the location of the breakout is included as Map 2. Map 3 is a detail of the portal entries and breakout.

Our engineering calculations show that about 700 cubic yards of earth will need to be moved to construct the 1/4 acre fan pad shown on Map 3. This pad may be needed for a future fan location for mining the northern most reserves. Although the fan is not needed at this time, it is necessary to construct the pad at the time of the breakout. Diligent efforts will be expended to minimize the amount of disturbance at the site. Because of the thinness of the topsoil, small areal extent of disturbance, and the boulder strewn nature of the site, topsoil will not be collected.

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The portal location was examined by Dr. Hauck of AERC for possible archeological sites. His report is included as Exhibit 1. No sites were found. Endangered Plant Studies, a botanical consulting firm, performed a vegetation and soil survey of the proposed site. Dr. Welsh's report is included as Exhibit 2.

Final Reclamation Plan -- Reclamation of the 4 East portal will proceed as follows. First, all structures on the pad will be removed including foundations. The pad will then be roughened. The portal will be sealed and revegetated as outlined below.

Sealing -- A breakout seal will be constructed in the breakout area from the inside as shown on the Typical Portal Seal drawing presented in Volume 3 of the M&RP on page 216. The seal will be of a substantial design and constructed of concrete block utilizing a waterproof sealant such that the seal will withstand the hydraulic head that could develop if the entire mine was inundated.

In compliance with 30 CFR 75.1711-2, seals will be installed in the entry as soon as mining is completed and the mine is to be abandoned. Prior to installation, all loose material within three feet of the seal area will be removed from the roof, rib, and floor. The mine entry seal will be made of solid concrete blocks (average minimum compressive strength of 1,800 psi; tested in accordance with A.S.T.M C-140-70) and mortar (one part cement, three parts sand, and no more than seven gallons of water per sack of cement).

The seal will be installed in the following manner: The seal will be recessed at least 16 inches deep into the rib and 12 inches deep into the floor. No recess will be made into the roof. The blocks will be at least six inches high except on the top course, and eight inches wide. The blocks will be laid and mortared in a transverse pattern. In the bottom course, each block will be laid with the long axis parallel to the rib. The long axis in succeeding courses will be perpendicular to the long axis block in the preceding course. An interlaced pilaster will be constructed in the center. The seals will have a total thickness of 16 inches. The entry will then be backfilled and graded to the slope of the area surrounding the portal entry. For details, see Figures 783.13/A and 783.13/B.

Revegetation -- The 4 East breakout area consists of one portal located on a south-facing slope in the pinyon-juniper community type. This community is very similar to the other portal sites. Vegetation and soils information are contained in Exhibit II. The disturbed area at the site will be so small as to create minimal disturbance to the surrounding vegetative communities. After sealing and burial of the breakout opening, scarification of the slope by hand raking will take place. Then the appropriate amounts of the seed mix given in Exhibit II will be planted. Establishment of shrub species will take place by natural reinvasion.

Please approve this 4 East ventilation portal plan as a minor modification of our approved M&RP. Enclosed are 15 copies of this minor modification for your distribution to the appropriate State and Federal agencies. This minor modification should be inserted in the back of Volume 8 of Southern Utah Fuel Company's M&RP.

Sincerely,
SOUTHERN UTAH FUEL COMPANY

Ken M. Payne
V. P. & General Manager

WKS:cfc

Enclosures - Map 1, 4 East Portal Location Map
Map 2, 4 East Portal Underground Map 1" = 1000'
Map 3, 4 East Portal Detail 1" = 100'
Exhibit 1, AERC Report
Exhibit II, Endangered Plant Studies Report