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STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
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355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

May 30, 1988

Mr. George Morris
Forest Supervisor
Manti-LaSal National Forest
599 West Price River Drive
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Morris:

RE: Stipulation USFS 3, SUFCO, Convulsion Canyon Mine, ACT/041/002, Folder #2, Sevier County, Utah

The Division has received revised text and a map from Southern Utah Fuel Company in response to your review of outstanding permit condition USFS 3. Two copies are enclosed for your further review. Please notify myself or Lowell P. Braxton of the acceptability of this response by July 1, 1988, if possible.

Sincerley,

Susan C. Linner
Reclamation/Biologist
Permit Supervisor

SCL/as
cc: L. P. Braxton
1356R/22

Attachment

Southern Utah Fuel Company
a subsidiary of The Coastal Corporation
P.O. Box P • Salina, Utah 84654 • (801) 529–7428
Mine: (801) 637–4880

May 13, 1988

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

Dear Mr. Braxton:

The response to outstanding permit condition USFS 3 has been revised as requested in the Division's April 26, 1988 letter. Fourteen (14) copies of update sheets for Volume 5 of Southern Utah Fuel Company's MRP are enclosed along with an insertion guide.

Map 80-10B has been revised as requested by the Manti-LaSal Forest Supervisor. Fourteen (14) copies of Map 80-10B revised May 1988 are included. These should be used to replace Map 80-10B in Volume 3.

Sincerely,
SOUTHERN UTAH FUEL COMPANY

Ken Payne
V. P. & General Manager

WKS:cfc

Enclosure

INSERTION GUIDE

FOR 1988 SUBSIDENCE

REVISIONS

VOLUME 5

Replace page 3 with page 3 & 3A
Revised May 1988

Spring #1 was developed by the U.S. Forest Service for livestock use and has a flow of approximately three gallons per minute. Spring #2 has an intermittent flow; Spring #3 is created by mine discharge water NPDES Point 001.

Two small run-off water catchment ponds are located in the area as well as unmeasurable seeps along sandstone outcrops in the canyons.

The mine is located in the Upper Hiawatha bed in the Blackhawk Formation. The Blackhawk is overlain by the Castlegate Sandstone and underlain by the Starpoint Sandstone. The Starpoint is approximately 200 feet thick and the Castlegate ranges from 100 to 200 feet in thickness. Both of these sandstones are the primary cliff-forming members showing in the canyons.

The Blackhawk Formation is made up of sandstones, siltstones, shales, coals, and other carbonaceous material interbedded to varying degrees. Thickness of the formation in the mine area is approximately 700 feet. The mineable coal seam varies from 4.5 to 12 feet in thickness with in-place thicknesses of 18 feet in isolated areas. It dips 2° to the northwest. A general strata cross-section is shown on Figure 1.

LANDS AFFECTED BY SUBSIDENCE

Most of the area bounded by Southern Utah Fuel Company's permit lines will eventually be affected by subsidence. The anticipated subsidence area is shown on Map 80-10B (revised 1988). The area where Quitchupah Creek crosses the leases will be protected from subsidence by the establishment of a stream buffer zone within the mine in which only limited recovery will take place. Except at specifically approved locations, underground mining operations will be conducted in a manner to prevent surface subsidence that would cause the creation of hazardous conditions; such as escarpment failure and landslides. Subsidence will not be experienced over the pre-1977 workings known as the "Old Mine" in Lease SL-062583.

Mining in such a manner to leave support pillars is planned under the bottom of Quitchupah Canyon. Quitchupah Creek is the only perennial stream in the area, and the establishment of these buffer zones will ensure that the flow will not be disrupted. Before the area is abandoned, a plan will be submitted to the regulatory authority for approval. The plan will utilize the best feasible technology to provide for maintaining the integrity of Quitchupah Creek.

Southern Utah Fuel Company monitors the stream flow of Quitchupah Creek as part of its hydrologic monitoring program. Flows of the stream above and below the permit area are measured. This data is submitted to the regulatory authority annually. Should the flow of Quitchupah Creek be disrupted by subsidence during the life of the operation, a mitigation plan will be submitted to the regulatory authority and the Forest Service for approval.

To keep the steep side slopes of Convulsion and Quitchupah Canyons stable, low recovery mining or controlled full extraction mining in specifically approved areas is planned in the zone from the plateau rim to the outcrop. Where low recovery mining is used, the coal will be fully extracted to a point where a line from the workings, upward along the draw angle, intercepts the canyon rim. Continuing from this point to the outcrop, coal pillars of sufficient size will be left to support the overburden.