



State of Utah  
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
 DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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May 25, 2000

Ken May, General Manager  
 Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
 397 South 800 West  
 Salina, Utah 84654

Re: Approval of Modifications to the Link Canyon Substation Plan, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, SUFCO Mine, ACT/041/002-AM00B, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. May

The Division has reviewed and hereby approves your proposal to modify the operation plan for the Link Canyon substation. Enclosed are a stamped approved copy of the amendment for incorporation into the Mining and Reclamation Plan and a copy of our technical analysis for your information.

Please call me at 801-538-5325 or Paul Baker at 801-538-5261 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock  
 Permit Supervisor

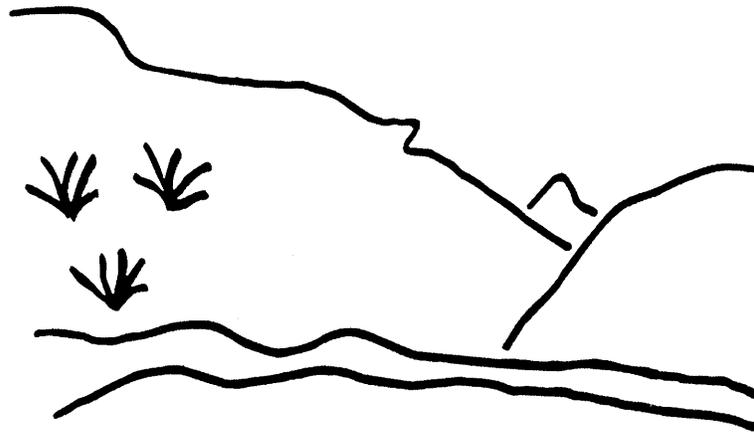
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Enclosure:

cc: Joe Wilcox, OSM  
 Richard Manus, BLM  
 Crockett Dumas, USFS ( 2 copies)  
 Rob Mrowka, USFS (Fishlake)  
 Mark Page, Water Rights w/o  
 Dave Ariotti, DEQ w/o  
 Derris Jones, DWR w/o  
 Price Field Office

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# State of Utah



## Utah Oil Gas and Mining

### Coal Regulatory Program

SUFCO Mine  
Substation #2  
ACT/041/002-AM00B  
Technical Analysis  
May 25, 2000

**INTRODUCTION**

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On May 17, 2000, the Division received a proposal from Canyon Fuel Company to clarify the monitoring and maintenance requirements for the Link Canyon substation.

## OPERATION PLAN

### FISH AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION PLAN

Regulatory Reference: R645-301-333

#### **Analysis:**

##### **Protection and Enhancement Plan**

Link Canyon contains high priority big game winter range and has historically had at least two raptor nests. Forest Service and other regulations and guidelines require that these areas be protected during certain times of the year. However, the road through Link Canyon is a public road, so there is potentially some degree of disturbance year-round.

According to the application, the Link Canyon substation will require only emergency maintenance and monthly electrical inspections. This will require access using a pickup, all terrain vehicle, or snowmobile, and this would be similar to public use of the canyon.

From December 1 through August 15, any major maintenance requiring heavy construction equipment would necessitate monitoring for raptors or big game to determine if this level of additional disturbance would be acceptable, and this would require a clearance from the Division of Wildlife Resources and the Forest Service. The Division should be notified, and if there is any concern about raptors, the applicant should inform the Fish and Wildlife Service.

#### **Findings:**

Information in the application is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations. In the event that major maintenance requiring heavy equipment is needed at the Link Canyon substation, the applicant should notify the Division in addition to the Division of Wildlife Resources and the Forest Service. If there is any concern about raptors, the Fish and Wildlife Service should also be informed.