

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

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April 2, 2007

TO: Internal File

THRU: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor *DWH*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Environmental Scientist III. Ownership and Engineering *WHW*

RE: Lease Area Relinquishment, Canyon Fuel Company LLC, SUFCO Mine, C041/0002, Task ID #2756

SUMMARY:

On March 2, 2007, the Division received an amendment in which the Permittee requested that the permit area be reduced by 1,477. The reason for the request is that the BLM relinquished the 1447 acres on March 27, 2006. The Permittee did not request any reduction in the disturbed areas (bonded areas.)

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

PERMIT AREA

Regulatory Requirements: 30 CFR 783.12; R645-301-521.

Analysis:

The Permittee met the minimum requirements of this section by describing and identifying the areas that are within the permit boundaries. On March 2, 2007, the Division received an amendment in which the Permittee requested that the permit area be reduced by 1,477. The reason for the request is that the BLM relinquished the 1447 acres.

The Permittee provided the Division with a copy of the partial lease relinquishment issued by the BLM of March 27, 2006. The Permittee did not mine in the area of lease relinquishment. The BLM modified the (resource recovery and protection plan) R2P2 on November 17, 2006 to take into account the lease relinquishment.

The Permittee update the Chapter 1 to show the updated permit area and the number of permit acres that are owned by the federal government, State government and private landowners.

Findings:

The information provided in the proposed amendment is considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.24, 783.25; R645-301-323, -301-411, -301-521, -301-622, -301-722, -301-731.

Analysis:

Permit Area Boundary Maps

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The Permittee did not meet the minimum requirements of this section. The Permittee did not update all maps that show the permit boundary. The Division needs the Permittee to update all maps so that there will be no confusion about the permit boundary.

The Permittee did provide the Division with an update copy of Plate 5-6, Land Ownership and Permit Area Map.

Findings:

The information provided in the proposed amendment is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Before approval, the Permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

R645-301-521.140 and R645-301-121.200, The Permittee must update all maps that show the permit area boundaries. The Division needs all maps that show the permit boundaries to be updated to avoid confusion about what maps show the correct permit boundary.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Division should deny the proposed amendment until all of the above mentioned deficiencies have been addressed.