Chevron

**American Gilsonite Company**
A Subsidiary of Chevron Resources Company
Bonanza, UT 84008 • Phone (801) 789-1921

Bonanza Mining Operations

File
ACT/047/010A
Copy to Tom T., Tom P., Wayne, Sue

JIM
AUG 05 1983

August 3, 1983

Mr. James W. Smith
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Smith:

On June 8, 1983 I met in Salt Lake City with five members of your staff to discuss modifications to the Bonanza Operation's ACT/047/010 A, B, C Mine and Reclamation Plan. During this meeting, numerous items concerning the plan were clarified for both parties involved. I immediately embarked on revisions and additions for the Plan. Thus far, the following items have been or are nearly completed.

- -47 Soil samples obtained and sent off for analysis
  - 28 activie and inactive mine sites
  - 15 undisturbed areas
  - 4 facility sites
- -15 Vegetative transects conducted
- -28 Mine sites inventoried
- -Re-mapping, locating and drafting of all facilities
- -Inventory and measuring of top soil stock piles
- -Engineering initiated on Solar Pad mitigation
- -Renewal of NPDES Permit completed

Compilation, drafting and final analysis of data will be completed in September. All information will then be submitted as "Revised" pages to be inserted in the Mine and Reclamation Plan that was submitted to the state in March 1983.

Chevron's intentions of fencing all gilsonite veins belonging to the Company was discussed. The fencing project is to commence on approximately August 15, 1983 and will continue for two years. A five strand barbed wire fence will

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be placed on six foot metal posts, 50 foot from either edge of the vein. Signs reading "Danger - Caving Area" will be placed at 50 foot intervals the entire length of the vein with three signs placed at each end.

Some locations may require vegetation to be stripped to provide access. No top soil will be removed. The seed mixture to be used for re-seeding will be the same as that proposed in the Mine and Reclamation Plan. Seeding will be done in either the fall or spring seeding windows.

The fencing is scheduled as follows:

1983

| | |
|---|---|
| Rainbow Vein (West end to Tennessee Claim) | Fencing |
| Wagonhound Vein (WH-5) | Fencing |
| Pride of the West Vein | Fencing |
| Little Emma Vein | Fencing |
| Eureka Vein | Fencing |
| Eureka Vein | Fence Repair |
| Independent Vein | Fence Repair |
| Bonanza Vein | Fence Repair |

1984

| | |
|---|---|
| Rainbow Vein (East end to Tennessee Claim) | Fencing |
| Harrison Vein | Fencing |
| Dragon Vein | Fencing |
| Neal Vein | Fencing |

Also discussed with the staff was a proposed reclamation project to be conducted on veins that were mined prior to the Mined Land Act (1975). Approximately fourteen miles of open veins exist and Chevron wishes to initiate a project to close the veins and reclaim the surface. As stated above, the mined veins do not fall under current regulations for reclamation, therefore, it was suggested that Chevron and the Division draft an agreement stating the same and also stating that Chevron would be conducting the project by its own desire and could cancel the project at any time so long as any distrubance caused by the project was properly taken care of. The project will be a long term project.

To conduct closure techniques, existing fences would be moved to 150 feet from the open cut. In some locations, top soil would be stripped to provide access and drilling pads. Holes would then be drilled adjacent to the vein opening, filled with explosives and blasted, causing the openings to collapse inward. Once blasted, the closed vein would be allowed to sit for six to twelve months to observe stability. Once stability is determined, the area would be regraded, top soil respread and reseeded during the next planting cycle.

I would appreciate hearing from you on this matter as soon as possible, since we would like to conduct the first vein closures this fall.

Thank your for your time.

Sincerely,

O. L. Fyock
Environmental Specialist

OLF:vjw

cc: T. N. Tetting
R. L. Haffner
R. F. Dewey
M. E. Pitzak
R. E. Carlbert