United States Department of the Interior

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TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

S/047/048 *
S/047/050
S/047/051
S/047/061
M/047/007

RECEIVED
MAY 12 2005
DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

IN REPLY REFER TO:
3800
UT08300
66354
66357 & 66358
66366

May 11, 2005

Darron Haddock
Division of Oil Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple Suite 1210
PO Box 14801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Dear Darron:

It was good to see you and your staff at the mineral materials-mining law conference at the Utah State Office about a month ago. I recently conducted four inspections of some expired notice level operations that have been undergoing reclamation (copies attached for your information). OHV travel across the 66354, 66357 and 66358 areas is a problem. I'm hoping that an alternative in our Resource Management Plan is adopted that restricts vehicular travel to designated roads and trails in these areas.

Notice UTU66354 S/047/048 was broadcast seeded some years ago and has not quite reached the coverage of desirable vegetation that would trigger a closure of the case. S/047/050 UTU66357 has been reshaped, but has yet to be seeded by the operator of record (Bluebell Oil Co in our surface management file; I think it is Hiko Bell on UDOGM's permit S/047/~~051~~). 050 Disturbances at UTU66358 were reshaped and seeded between mid-August and late-December of 2004 by our office under special BLM funding. Hiko Bell, the operator of record is reimbursing the BLM for our expenses via an installment payment regime. Mr. Stevens filled in his excavation at the location of notice UTU66366, but has yet to remove some materials nearby. He never had a filing with UDOGM in the matter of his expired notice. S/047/051

I'll forward other inspection reports as they are completed. As of now, the only two active (extended or approved) operations [being conducted pursuant to the 43 CFR 3809 surface management regulations] are extended notice UTU66378 (Mr. Chew's rock quarry on a presumed uncommon variety of stone – S/047061) S/047/061 and approved plan UTU76097 (Simplot Phosphate's plan – part of M/047/007). I have indicated to the – M/047/007

environmental coordinator at Simplot that the amount of bond for plan UTU76097 that is in the form of rider to the larger bond held by UDOGM can be incrementally increased as the elevation of the tailings pond rises which would be followed by the eventual filling of the area with solids. This would be in lieu of having a rider in the amount of the estimate to reclaim the entire project area. My last inspection of UTU76097 revealed the water from the tailings pond had yet to cover any public lands.

You can contact me at 435 781-4501 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Peter Sokolosky
Geologist

enclosures