

SECTION 33

POST-RECLAMATION ROADS, BUILDINGS, FACILITIES, AND OTHER STRUCTURES

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SECTION 33

POST-RECLAMATION ROADS, BUILDINGS, FACILITIES, AND OTHER STRUCTURES

LIST OF REVISIONS DURING PERMIT TERM

REV.		DATE
NUMBER	REVISION DESCRIPTION	APPROVED

SECTION 33 POST-RECLAMATION ROADS, BUILDINGS, FACILITIES, AND OTHER STRUCTURES

33.1 Post-Reclamation Roads

BHP Navajo Coal Company (BNCC) does not plan to retain any roads for post-mining land use; however, prior to removal BNCC will consult with the Navajo Nation local chapters to identify any roads that they would like retained. If any roads are to be retained the permit application package will be revised accordingly.

The reclamation procedures for primary and ancillary roads will be different due to levels of disturbance. Primary roads will be ripped and toppedressed with an average of 9.6 inches of topdressing throughout the length of the road (Section 36, Post-Reclamation Soil). Topdressing material will not be redistributed on ancillary roads, as discussed in Section 36 (Post-Reclamation Soil); rather, the existing surfaces of these roads will be disked and seeded according to the methods and procedures described in Section 37 (Post-Reclamation Vegetation).

For detailed information about post-mining reclamation refer to Part 5 (Reclamation Plan). For information about primary roads refer to Section 23 (Roads).

33.2 Other Post-Reclamation Transportation Facilities

BNCC does not plan to retain other transportation facilities for post-reclamation use; however, prior to removal BNCC will consult with the Navajo Nation and local chapters to identify any facilities that they would like retained. If any facilities are to be retained the permit application package will be revised accordingly.

For detailed information about post-mining reclamation refer to Part 5 (Reclamation Plan). For information about coal transportation facilities refer to Section 22 (Support Facilities).

33.3 Post-Reclamation Buildings and Ancillary Structures

BNCC does not plan to retain any buildings and ancillary structures for post-reclamation use; however, prior to removal BNCC will consult with the Navajo Nation and local chapters to identify any buildings and ancillary structures that they would like retained. If any buildings and ancillary structures are to be retained the permit application package will be revised accordingly.

For detailed information about post-mining reclamation refer to Part 5 (Reclamation Plan). For information about buildings and support facility areas refer to Section 22 (Support Facilities).

33.4 Post-Reclamation Water, Sewage, and Other Utility Facilities

BNCC does not plan to retain any water, sewage, or other utility facilities located above or below ground for post-reclamation use; however, prior to removal BNCC will consult with the Navajo Nation and local chapters to identify any that they would like retained. If any utilities are to be retained the permit application package will be revised accordingly.

For detailed information about post-mining reclamation refer to Part 5 (Reclamation Plan). For information about water, sewage, and other utility facilities refer to Section 22 (Support Facilities).

33.5 Post-Reclamation Pipelines, Electrical Lines, and Communications Facilities

BNCC does not plan to retain any pipelines, electrical lines, or communications facilities located above or below ground for post-reclamation use; however, prior to removal BNCC will consult with the Navajo Nation and local chapters to identify any utilities that they would like retained. If any utilities are to be retained the permit application package will be revised accordingly.

For detailed information about post-mining reclamation refer to Part 5 (Reclamation Plan). For information about pipelines, electrical lines, and communications facilities refer to Section 22 (Support Facilities).

33.6 Post-Reclamation Wells

During mining, BNCC may disrupt groundwater availability to wells within the permit area. These wells are identified and discussed in Section 18 (Water Resources). Protection and replacement of water rights for present users is discussed in Section 35 (Hydrologic Reclamation Plan), and BNCC will replace the lost water sources should BNCC find that the water users are still in need of the sources that existed pre-mine. BNCC may replace the water use sources with replacement wells, as deemed appropriate by BNCC. Replacement wells, if constructed, will be completed into a water-bearing unit to provide comparable water quantity for use in livestock watering to support the post-mine land use of grazing. BNCC does not intend for any replacement wells to be used as a source of domestic water. Restoration of groundwater recharge capacity is discussed in Section 35 (Hydrologic Reclamation Plan).

Groundwater monitoring wells will be left in place until monitoring requirements under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) have been satisfied and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) approves their removal from the monitoring program. The groundwater monitoring program is discussed in Section 42 (Monitoring, Maintenance, Inspections, and Examinations). Groundwater monitoring wells, exploration holes, and boreholes will be reclaimed as described in Section 32 (Temporary Structures and Facilities Removal and Reclamation). A description of the construction,

operation, use, and maintenance of wells is contained in Section 18 (Water Resources), Section 22 (Support Facilities), and Section 42 (Monitoring, Maintenance, Inspections, and Examinations).

33.7 Other Post-Reclamation Structures and Facilities

During mining development, BNCC may disrupt surface water availability to several livestock ponds within and adjacent to the mining area. Protection and replacement of water rights for present users is discussed in Section 35 (Hydrologic Reclamation Plan), and BNCC will replace the lost water sources should BNCC find that the water users are still in need of the sources that existed pre-mine. BNCC may replace these livestock ponds with replacement livestock ponds or livestock tanks, as deemed appropriate by BNCC. The replacement livestock ponds or tanks will provide comparable water quantity for use in livestock watering. BNCC does not intend for any ponds or tanks to be used as a source of domestic water.

BNCC does not plan to retain other structures and facilities for post-reclamation use; however, prior to removal BNCC will consult with the Navajo Nation and local chapters to identify any structures and facilities that they would like retained. If any structures and facilities are to be retained the permit application package will be revised accordingly.

For detailed information about post-mining reclamation refer to Part 5 (Reclamation Plan). For information about support facilities refer to Section 22 (Support Facilities).

Personnel

Persons or organizations responsible for data collection, analysis, and preparation of this permit application package section:

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