

because of prior disturbance. However, where possible, the available soil resources have been mapped and tested. The soil resources of this area have been mapped and sampled to determine the amount of soil which is available for removal. In addition, sampling and chemical analysis of this soil material has been completed. Mapping and sampling of the soil horizons in areas which will be disturbed by the surface activities has been conducted by the Soil Conservation Service located in Trinidad, Colorado. Because the Haul Road (TR-76) is already in a previously disturbed railroad bed soils will not be impacted. Analyses of the various samples shown on Map 9, Soils, are located in Exhibit 14, Soils Information. In addition, the description of each soil type which will be disturbed is included in Exhibit 14. Locations of soil samples are shown on Map 9, Soils. Additional narrative for all three soil types which may be removed is shown in Exhibit 14.

During the spring of 1984, a soil survey was conducted to identify the extent of the soil resources and their suitability as a plant growth medium on the proposed Refuse Disposal Area (RDA) and Preparation Plant Area (PPA). Existing Soil conservation Service (SCS) unpublished soil survey of the area was used as a field guide during the site evaluation. An ortho-photo (scale 1:6000) was used as the base map for soil mapping in the study area. Preliminary mapping boundaries based on topographic location, vegetation types, geologic features, and the previous soil survey were delineated on the photo.

The area was traversed on foot to inspect soils. Surface observations and inspection of subsurface soils was obtained with a manually operated soil auger were made to verify soil type changes along the landscape. The soils that were observed were correlated to those previously described by the SCS. The mapping unit descriptions are also consistent with those developed by the SCS.

Soil samples were taken in the proposed refuse disposal area to characterize the physical and chemical suitability of soil. All samples were taken in the area mapped as Rombo soil because this soil type will have the greatest areal disturbance. Samples were taken with the soil