Loadout Facility

If the market allows, coal will be shipped directly to customers without the need for washing during the permit term. A 7-acre stockpiling, blending, and railcar loading area is planned on the south side of the main Kern Valley Railroad line immediately east of the access road in Lorencito Canyon (Figure 2. 05. 3- 1). Coal will be trucked to the area where it will be crushed and stored in open stockpiles for loading on rail cars with front-end loaders. Shipment will range from small multi-car to unit trains. Facilities at the site may include a portable office/lunch room and a diesel storage tank. The facility will be constructed by filling the area immediately south of the railroad and east of the access road with up to 5,000 cy of clean fill to create a level pad. Vegetation and topsoil will be removed and topsoil stockpiled as required. Should markets dictate the need for washed coal, coal will be transported by rail to the Picketwire Processing Plant for processing and unit train loading.

Signs and Markers

A mine permit identification sign will be posted at the Highway 12 entrance to the LCC mine. The sign will show the name address and telephone number of the person responsible for conducting surface and underground mining and the identification of the current permit authorizing the operations. Additionally, a sign will be posted at the Highway 12 entrance which states " Warning Explosives in Use" an explanation of the blast warning and all clear signals, and an explanation of the markings of the blast areas and charged holes within the permit area. The permit perimeter will be marked with brightly painted posts. The posts will be placed at irregular intervals such that one post can be seen from the next one. Stream buffer zones will be delineated 100 feet on either side of a perennial stream using rectangular signs labeled "Stream Buffer Zone" at an interval which can be seen from one sign to another.

4) Ponds Impoundments and Diversions

The general surface water and sediment control plan consists of the diversion of clean water around or through the site, and collection ditches which route runoff from disturbed areas into sediment control ponds. All surface drainage from disturbed areas will be passed through either a sediment control structure or controls put in place to prevent the effluent from the site from exceeding applicable State and Federal water quality requirements for downstream receiving waters. The surface water control plan is prepared under the direction of, and certified by a qualified registered professional engineer.

All ditches have been designed according to Sections 4.0. 1(4), 4.03.2(4), 4.05.3 and 4.09.2(7). Drainage ditches have been designed to pass the 10-year 24-hour storm event with 0.3' of freeboard. Temporary ditches will be constructed to pass a minimum of the 2-year 24-hour storm. Side collection ditches from the fills on the surface mine will be designed to pass the 100-year 24-hour storm. Drainage structures at the portals, along the roads and associated with the fills are shown on **Map 2. 05.3- 7**. General ditch cross-sections are provided in **Figure 2.05.3-16**. Support design documentation are provided in **Exhibit 15**.

Ditches will be variously armored with riprap or equivalent protection against erosive velocities. Rip -rap installations will utilize woven or nonwoven geotextiles on a coarse sand base of at least three inches in thickness for a filter blanket. The geotextiles will have an EOS of 70 or less.

Ditch D-20 **(Map 2.05.3-7)** reports to Pond 6. Temporary straw or rock check -dams will be placed along it above Pond 6 to control flow -velocity and reduce sediment loading reporting to Pond 6. As vegetation becomes more established on the slopes above pond 6, these check dams will either be removed, or if well vegetated, left in place for post mining wildlife habitat.

Clean out of ponds and other sediment controls will require a small area located directly below Fill 8 along the road to Pond 5. Top soil will be stripped from the area and used to form a temporary berm upslope of the drying area. Sediment will be removed from the pond and transported to this area for drying. The material will be spread and turned as necessary to facilitate drying. This storage area will be graded and seeded, once no more sediment cleaning is anticipated and vegetation on the mine site has begun to look successful. Vegetation success is expected in the area due to the material being composed of topsoil and the area being flat. The dried sediment will be transported to areas of mine reclamation to be used, as determined by soil analysis, as either soil or cover material. Upon project completion, the area will be leveled and followed by seeding and mulching as per **Section 2. 05-4**.

Diversions are designed, constructed and maintained to minimize adverse impacts to the hydrologic balance. Placement will not increase the potential for slides or downstream flooding, nor endanger property or public safety. Diversions will be maintained to prevent additional contributions of suspended solids to stream flow and to runoff outside the permit area to the extent possible, using the best technology currently available. This will be accomplished with measures that include but are not limited to the maintenance of appropriate gradients, the use of various channel linings, revegetation, roughness, structures, energy dissipaters and detention basins.

Variance from Rule 4.05.18 (Stream Buffer Zones)

The topography beneath fills 5, 6 and 7 necessitated locating sediment ponds 5, 6 and 07a partially within the 100 foot stream buffer zone required by Rule 4. 05. 18. Therefore Lorencito Coal Company has requested a variance from that requirement for these three sediment ponds. The only activities within the stream buffer zone will be the construction and maintenance of these ponds.