



State of Utah

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DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
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MEMORANDUM

**TO: UPDES File for Permit No. UT0025640
Utah Land Resources, Inc. – West Ridge Mine**

THROUGH: Jeffrey Studenka

FROM: Suzan Tahir

DATE: 3-24-2022 (as updated from 2-24-22 version)

SUBJECT: West Ridge Mine WLA/ADR

I am writing in response to your request for a wasteload allocation for the permit renewal for the West Ridge Mine UPDES Permit No. UT0025640. It is my understanding that the receiving water for the discharge, C Canyon, is an ephemeral or intermittent drainage. I accessed the DOGM Water Quality Database, and reviewed data and flow data for C Canyon for the period 2000-2022. Site ST-6A, above the mine, had a single flow result on 6/1/2005 of 15 gallons per minute (gpm) and all the rest of the data showed zero flow (0 gpm). As a result, I would consider the 7Q10 of the receiving stream to be zero (0 gpm). This being the case, the effluent limits revert to the water quality standards. All the DOGM Water Quality Database data is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. DOGM Water Quality Database Data Summary

Site	Site Description	Flow Stratus
ST-6A	C Canyon AB Mine Site	❖ Last flow on 6/1/2005 ❖ No Flow for 1997-2011
ST-6	C Canyon BL Mine Site Area	○ Last flow on 1/11/2016 ○ No Flow for 2016-2021
UTG040023-D002	Mine Discharge (Outfall 002)	▪ Last flow on 2/11/2016 ▪ No Flow for 2016-2021
UTG040023-D001	Primary Spillway from Second Sediment Pond (Outfall 001)	➤ No Flow for 2001-2021

According to Utah's 2022 Integrated Report and 303(d) Water Quality Assessment for prioritizing impaired waters, which was finalized as approved by EPA in March 2022, Grassy Trail Creek-

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Lower reported insufficient data to determine any impairment. A TMDL was previously completed however, for the West Colorado Watershed and approved by EPA in 2004 (*Price River, San Rafael River and Muddy Creek TMDLs for Dissolved Solids – West Colorado Watershed Management Unit, Utah, April 2004*).

It is my understanding that C Canyon, which flows into Grassy Trail Creek, would have the water quality classification of "Price River and tributaries, from confluence with Green River to Carbon Canal Diversion at Price City Golf Course" and with beneficial uses "2B, 3C and 4" as classified. Additionally, a site-specific standard for TDS of 3000 mg/L has been adopted for the Price River and tributaries from the confluence with Green River to confluence with Coal Creek, which includes the Grassy Trail Creek watershed.

A Level 1 Antidegradation Review was conducted on the facility discharge. Since this is a permit renewal, with no proposed increase in flows or concentrations over the current permit limits, a Level 2 Antidegradation review is not required.

DWQ-2022-003183