

State of Utah GARY R. HERBERT Governor

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> L. Scott Baird Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY Erica Brown Gaddis, PhD Director

## September 24, 2020

## DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PUBLIC NOTICE OF RENEWAL OF UPDES PERMIT

# **PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE**

The purpose of this public notice is to declare the state of Utah's intention to renew a Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (UDPES) Permit under authority of the Utah Water Quality Act, Section 19-5-104 and 107, Utah Code Annotated 1953, as amended. Said "permit" refers to UPDES Permit and the Fact Sheet and Statement of Basis (including the total maximum daily loads (TMDL's)) if applicable, as per Section 303 (d) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA).

#### **PERMIT INFORMATION**

PERMITTEE NAME: MAILING ADDRESS: TELEPHONE NUMBER: FACILITY LOCATION: UPDES PERMIT NO.: PERMITTED OUTFALLS: RECEIVING WATERS: Canyon Fuel Company, LLC – Skyline Mine HC 35, Box 380, Helper, UT 84526 435-636-2887 ~8 miles southwest of Scofield, Utah along SR 264 UT0023540 001, 002, 003, 004, & 005 Eccles Creek, UP Canyon Creek, Winter Quarters Canyon Creek, & Electric Lake

# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Canyon Fuel Company's Skyline Mine (Skyline Mine) is an active underground coal mine operation with Standard Industrial Classification 1222, for bituminous underground coal mining operations. The draft UPDES Permit has a total of five permitted discharge points (Outfalls 001 through 005). Outfall 001, which discharges to Eccles Creek, is comprised of both the continuous mine water discharges, as well as any surface water runoff directed to the sedimentation pond from the main facility. Outfall 002 is from a sedimentation pond, which collects surface water runoff from the separate coal load out facility located at the intersection of State Routes 264 & 96 and discharges intermittently to Eccles Creek during pond maintenance, precipitation and/or snow melting events. Outfall 003 is from a sedimentation pond located at the off-site waste rock disposal area near Scofield and has not discharged to date and is not expected to discharge into the foreseeable future due to its size. If discharge were to occur it would go to UP Canyon Creek, tributary to Mud Creek and Scofield Reservoir. Outfall 004 is configured to discharge both mine water, as well as any surface water runoff directed to the sedimentation pond from the off-site Winter Quarters Canyon ventilation shaft facility. Outfall 004 first began discharging mine water in May 2020 to Winter Quarters Canyon Creek, which is also tributary to Mud Creek and Scofield Reservoir, to safely dewater and operate the active mining areas. Prior to May 2020, any and all mine water discharges were discharged via Outfall 001. Skyline Mine has requested, as part of their UPDES Permit renewal, an additional Outfall location (005) to safely dewater and operate new active mining areas. Outfall 005 when completed will enable a portion of the mine water discharges, which would otherwise discharge via Outfall 001, to be discharged directly into Electric Lake, which is tributary to Huntington Creek. This

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UPDES renewal permit will once again authorize discharges from Skyline Mine during the next five years.

# PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments are invited any time prior to the deadline of the close of business on <u>October 26, 2020</u>. Written public comments can be submitted to: Jeff Studenka, UPDES Surface Water Section, Utah Division of Water Quality, PO Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870 or by email at: <u>jstudenka@utah.gov</u>. After considering public comment the Director may execute the permit issuance, revise it or abandon it. The permit is available for public review at <u>https://deq.utah.gov/public-notices-archive/water-quality-public-notices</u>. If internet access is not available, a copy may be obtained by calling Jeff Studenka at 801-536-4395.

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