KUC South End GW Permits

1) Barney’s Canyon, UGW 350001

2) Copperton Concentrator, UGW 350017

3) Bingham Canyon Reservoirs, UGW 350006

4) Bingham Canyon Mine and Water Collection System, UGW 350010
Barney’s Canyon

- The Ground Water Permit was renewed in 2008.
- However, active mining ceased in Dec. 2001 and only leaching of 3 of the remaining ore piles continues.
- A final mine closure plan for Ground Water is due one year prior to final closure.
- Complete closure of the mine is anticipated to take place in 2013.
State Ground Water Permits and the CERCLA/NRDC process

- Under the three party agreement (State, Federal and KUC), State Groundwater Rules are used to regulate KUC’s ongoing operations through several groundwater permits.

- Currently KUC South End operations are regulated by three permits including:
  1) The Copperton Concentrator
  2) The Bingham Canyon Reservoirs;
  3) The Bingham Canyon Mine and Leach Collection System;
Copperton Concentrator

- Monitoring well network used to determine any ground water impacts from operation of the Concentrator.
- Tailings pipeline is permitted “by rule”, however, appropriate spill prevention and countermeasures are followed.
- Concrete containment and inspections of all liquid handling facilities decrease the potential for any possible contamination.
- Lined process water pond with leak detection.
Bingham Canyon Reservoirs

- Currently permits both the Large and Small Reservoirs at the Bingham Canyon site.
- The reservoirs capture and store poor quality meteoric water from the entire mine as well as storm water runoff.
- The reservoirs are double lined with a leak detection system and are monitored regularly.
Large Reservoir at Bingham Creek.
View: East

Photo 2-1

Date: 8/30/2001
A monitoring well network is used to detect any further contamination of the principal Salt Lake Valley Aquifer.

Effectiveness Studies and Source Controls have been completed under the permit to minimize any future threats of groundwater pollution.

Cessation of active leaching in 1999-2000

East-side cutoff walls

The permit requires KUC to provide a mine closure plan

The Closure plan specifies

- long term maintenance
- minimization of groundwater pollution, primarily acid mine drainage.
Yosemite Cutoff Wall
Toe Drains
South End Collection Pipeline
Summary

- The State has 3 ground water permits overseeing KUC South End operations, plus Barney’s Canyon.

- Source controls, best available technology and ground water monitoring limit the potential for future contamination to the Salt Lake Valley aquifer.