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FILE

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June 18, 1979

Registered - Return Receipt Requested #

Mr. Trevor G. Whiteside
Mine Engineer
Valley Camp of Utah
P. O. Box 507
Clear Creek, Utah 84517

Re: Violations; Belina #1 Coal Mine
and Load-out Facilities

ACT/007/003

Dear Mr. Whiteside:

You will recall that the U.S. Office of Surface Mining and the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining conducted a joint inspection of the Belina #1 Mine and the associated Load-out facilities on June 8, 1979. The inspection was held under interim period regulations promulgated by both agencies (MC. 717.17 et. Seg. and 30 CFR 717.17 et. Seg.).

The mine site is presently in violation of several sections of the cited regulations. However, for the most part the violations will be abated if the procedures outlined in the recently submitted compliance study are completed in a timely manner. Only matters not addressed in the study, or those that need immediate action will be covered in this letter.

Violations observed during the inspection include the following:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Rule</u>	<u>Violation</u>
1	Mc 717.17 (a)	All runoff from the disturbed area at the mine site does not pass through appropriate sediment control structures. Specifically, a portion of the runoff on the lower pad bypasses the pond. This is evidenced by gullies on the lower pad over the buried culvert diversion pipe.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Rule</u>	<u>Violation</u>
2	Mc 717.17 (a)	Runoff from the coal stockpile at the Load-out located at the Utah #2 site is allowed to drain into the culvert under the pad. The culvert referred to is located adjacent to the water storage facility.
3	Mc 717.17 (e)	The sediment pond, located on the lower mine pad, is constructed on an uncompacted earth-fill structure. Seepage, apparently from the pond occurs on the outslope of the fill. Therefore, the Division feels that a failure of the pond is possible, thus creating a possible threat to the water resources.

Valley Camp of Utah is hereby directed to abate the above - cited violations within the specified time period from receipt of this letter. At a minimum, abatement must consist of the following:

Violations 1 and 2

All runoff from the cited disturbed areas must be diverted to a sediment pond by means of ditches, berms or other approved methods within thirty (30) days.

Violation 3

Appropriate tests are to be taken to determine if the seepage water originates from the pond within thirty (30) days.

If the tests indicate that water may be escaping through the embankment, the pond is to be drained, compacted, and lined or otherwise reconstructed to prevent seepage within an additional 30 days. The sediment pond and fill structure is to be monitored daily from receipt of this letter for signs of structural weakness.

The Division understands that the pond in question is a temporary structure. Construction detail plans for permanent sediment control structures must be submitted within Sixty (60) days.

If the violations are not abated in the specified time, the matter will be referred to the Attorney General for commencement of administrative proceedings before the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining. However, if Valley Camp of Utah feels with good cause that these items are not violations, or that alternative methods can satisfy the abatement requirements, Valley Camp of Utah may meet with the Division concerning the matter and/or apply for a hearing before the Board. This action should be taken prior to the directed abatement deadline.

The June 8, 1979 inspection and subsequent notice of violations were under the rules and regulations of the interim regulatory period. The Division, at this time, advises Valley Camp of Utah that all coal mines producing Federal coal must comply with the permanent regulatory program performance standards in mid-september of 1979

Finally, the Division would like to acknowledge Valley Camp of Utah's good faith efforts to bring their facilities into compliance with both State and Federal reclamation laws. Valley Camp of Utah's cooperation in these matters is highly appreciated.

Sincerely,



K. MICHAEL THOMPSON
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

AND



DENISE A. DRAGOO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCIES

KMT/DAD:pf

cc: Murray Smith, O.S.M., Denver