

0007

July 31, 1980

Memo to Coal File:

RE: Valley Camp of Utah
Belina #1 Mine and
Utah #2 Mine
ACT/007/001
Carbon County, Utah

On June 23, 1980 the above mentioned operation was given a complete inspection by Joe Helfrich and Mary Kay Stein, from the Division, and Eileen Doherty from the office of Surface Mining. State and Federal inspectors were accompanied by Trevor Whiteside, Ed Foust, and Bill Haynes.

General Comments

Valley Camp of Utah is actively mining coal at the Belina #1 mine with loadout facilities located at the Utah #2 mine. The loadout facility is the only active operation at the #2 mine with the exception of the ventilation fans. At present there are three (3) functional sediment ponds at the #2 mine site. The middle pond adjacent to the main stream drainage and main access road has been damaged. Damage resulted from heavy equipment driving on the sediment pond embankment, crushing a section of the inside embankment approximately 30 feet long. At this time the damage caused by the heavy equipment did not effect the capability of the sediment pond to retain sediment or water, however, the pond should be repaired prior to the spring runoff of 1981. This would require repair work be completed before the winter of 1980. Minimal erosion was noted near the diesel storage tank areas and stock pile pad area. In reference to the #3 pond which is located directly below the coal stockpile area there was evidence of coal in the sediment pond as a result of stockpiling coal in the pond during the previous winter. All the coal was removed and Mr. Whiteside was directed not to use the pond as a stockpile area.

At the Belina #1 mine additional surface disturbances are being conducted. These activities are in preparation for an additional parking area, coal storage pile, coal silo and portal extensions for entry to the Belina #2 mine. Surface disturbance at the present encompass's approximately six (6) acres. In reference to the parking area top soil has been stockpiled at the lower portion of the proposed parking area with a berm constructed around the berm area to prevent soil loss during construction phases. Top soil from the coal storage pile area has been stockpiled between the proposed pile area and the power substation at the upper boundary of the permit area.

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In reference to the coal silo present disturbance consists of an access road and a foundation drill hole. Top soil for the road and the pad area had been side cast resulting in a State and Federal violation. Mr. Haynes stated that plans regarding the parking area, the coal storage pile, and the coal silo, had been addressed in the original plans submitted in 1976. However, this was agreed upon by both inspectors and Mr. Haynes would undoubtedly be inadequate in view of present regulations. Mr. Haynes was then requested to update plans in view of present surface disturbances at the mine site.

Required applications and permits were available at the mine site with the exception of water monitoring data from January 1, 1980 to June 1, 1980. Mr. Whiteside indicated that the samples had been taken and the results had not been sent to the mine site or the Division at that time. On June 30, 1980 a meeting was held with Jerry Hansen of Vaughn Hansen associates, the company responsible for monitoring water quality at Valley Camp, to verify water monitoring data. The required data was available at Mr. Hansens office. Review of the data indicated no excess of effluent limitation at the mine site. Copies of the data were immediately sent to Mr. Whiteside and the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

The following violation was issued at the mine site:

Federal - 30 CFR 717.20(a) and public law 95-87 Section 516(b)
Failure to salvage top soil.

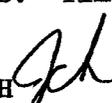
State violation - Rule MC 717.20 (a) Failure to remove segregate stockpile and protect top soil.

Portion of the operation to which notice applies:

1. Access road to foundation drill hole and Belina mines.
2. Site of coal handling facilities development at Belina mine.

Abatement action required:

1. Reclaim and revegetate disturbed access road.
2. Remove salvageable top soil from handling facility site without contamination between removal and stock piling activities. Time for Abatement - June 30, 1980.

JOSEPH C. HELFRICH 
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

JCH/lml

CC: Tom Ehmett

For Statistics see: Blackhawk memo dated June 23, 1980.