

May 31, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.
Belina #1 Mine
ACT/007/001
Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

A partial inspection at the Belina minesite was conducted on May 10, 1983 by Ken Wyatt of the Division. Mr. Steve Tanner of Valley Camp accompanied this inspector during the field tour. The weather was partly cloudy with periodic snow flurries. The purpose of this inspection was to examine for abatement work done on NOV N83-7-5-1 concerning perimeter markers across the mine access road at the boundary of the Belina Mine area.

At the time of this inspection Mr. Whiteside had wedged a fluorescent painted stake into the fork of an aspen tree. The perimeter marker sign mentioned in the May 3, 1983 memo to the coal file had been moved down along the main access road. A line could be drawn between the perimeter sign and the fluorescent marker. No other markers were observable beyond the two described above. However, these two markers were sufficient to delineate the perimeter of the Belina Mine area as it crosses the mine access road. This area was the root of the initial violation N83-7-5-1. Further inspections this spring and summer will be required to assess the adequacy of the perimeter markers on the remainder of the Belina minesite.

Recent snow fall in the Scofield area had created very wet conditions. The main mine access road was saturated and mud flows were observed in the road and ditches which subsequently drains downslope into Whiskey Creek. There was a definite visual difference in the water in Eccles Creek above the Valley Camp turnoff and below the Whiskey Creek Confluence with Eccles Creek. No water samples were collected at this time pending further research into this problem.

The road section involved in NOV N83-7-4-1 was in poor condition. Mud was flowing in all directions at the on-set of this inspection, however work was conducted during the inspection to maintain these ditches in order to channel water to the sediment pond. All ditches and road surfaces associated with this mining operation need to be continually maintained during the snowmelt season to insure that disturbed area runoff is conveyed to the sediment pond as designed. This will prevent unnecessary violations, preserve Valley Camp's integrity for environmental protection and prevent further boisterous conduct by the operator as has occurred during previous inspections.

The sediment pond was completely thawed at this time and the water level was approximately one foot or less below the emergency spillway. The mine water discharge is still being channeled through the sediment pond. A sample was collected of the sediment pond discharge below the overflow outlet. Due to the color of this sample it is probable that the effluent limitations are not being met and that NOV N83-1-1-1 cannot be terminated at this time. Any

action concerning this NOV will await receipt of the laboratory analyses.

After reviewing Valley Camp's DMR reports for discharges during 1982 and early 1983 and comparing this with documentation from the inspection memos to coal file. The mine water was initially routed through the sediment pond beginning in September 1982 and possibly as early as July.

Flow rates reported on the DMR forms represent mine water discharge into the sediment pond as measured at the discharge point from the mine (see Valley Camp's MRP, volume 3 page 46). These mine water discharge flows are not incorporated in the design of the #4 pond at the Belina Mine. These volumes are fairly significant in that these flows combined with snowmelt and runoff are likely to exceed the ponds design capacity and subsequently result in poor water quality discharges at the Belina Mine. Mine water discharge volumes reported on the DMR form are presented in Table I.

TABLE I

Valley Camp of Utah, Inc
 Belina #1 Mine
 NPDES #UT 0022985

Month	From DMR Forms \bar{x} Q (GPD) : GPM	Inspection Date	Comments
7/82	93065 : 64.6	7/21	Pond near capacity; several flowing sources should be inventoried as to source & flow rate & insure pond is adequate. NOV 83-1-9-2 #2 of 2 issued 7/21 for failure to meet effluent limitations.
8/82	93063 : 64.6	-	
9/82	93063 : 64.6	9/30	Pond full & near capacity; could be discharging. Mine water is routed into sediment pond.
10/82	6463 : 4.5	10/20	Mine water still being routed into sediment pond.
11/82	103404 : 71.8	11/24	Mine water is still routed into sediment pond.

12/82	40251	: 28.0	-	
1/83	36000	: 25.0	1/26 & 1/31	Mine water is still routed through sediment pond.
2/83	36000	: 25.0	-	Mine water still flows to sediment pond.
3/83	N/A	-		Mine water still goes through sediment pond.
4/83	N/A		4/12 & 4/26	NOV 83-1-1-1 issued for failure to meet effluent limitations (4/12). Mine water still routed through sediment pond. sample of discharge collected; probably not in compliance.
5/83			5/12	Mine water into pond. Sample of pond discharge probably out of compliance.

Valley Camp should proceed as quickly as possible in developing some alternative treatment system for their mine water discharge. Such treatment could include underground reservoirs or settling areas, rebuilding the existing filter pond (approved in August 1982) or some other treatment facility. No violations were issued during this inspection.

KEN WYATT *KW*
FIELD SPECIALIST

KW/lm

cc: Tom Emmett, OSM
Trevor Whiteside, Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Tom Tetting, DOGM

Statistics:

Per Diem: 1 person X 2 days, 20 hours = \$110.65
Vehicle: EX #66853 - 745 miles
Grant: A & E