

June 29, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Valley Camp of Utah, Inc.
Belina #1 & #2 Mine
ACT/007/001
Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

DATE: June 23, 1983
TIME: 12:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.
WEATHER: Partly cloudy, warm approximately 75° degrees
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Trevor Whiteside - Office, Ed Sanderson - Field
STATE OFFICIAL: Ken Wyatt
ENFORCEMENT ACTION: None

Compliance with Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

Available permits and approvals include:

1. The Belina #1 Mine approval dated October 8, 1976 for mining under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act.
2. The Belina #2 Mine was approved on June 10, 1981 with 10 stipulations that have since been addressed.
3. A June 20, 1983 letter from Jim Smith of the Division approves the Belina Mine haul road relocation and resurfacing as well as the Utah #2 sediment pond #3 modification.
4. A June 18, 1982 letter from the Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health approves for construction the mine water filter pond subsequently approved by the DOGM on August 31, 1982. This pond has not been constructed to date and plans have been submitted modifying the design for total concrete containment.
5. A letter from Tom Suchoski of DOGM dated January 30, 1980 approves the subsidence and water monitoring program.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

The mine entrance sign was posted as required. Perimeter markers were observed at several spots along the boundary of the disturbed area. A buffer

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zone sign is posted on the sediment pond embankment. The need for additional buffer zone signs along the upper Whiskey Creek diversion may be warranted as coal and snow waste had been pushed into an undisturbed diversion south of the coal pile which would drain into the stream. This material had been removed at the time of this inspection. The topsoil storage area above the substation was posted as required.

UMC 817.21 - .25 Topsoil

Some topsoil was observed being temporarily stockpiled along the Belina Mine access road. This soil material was retrieved during the access road realignment and is proposed to be utilized on the cut slopes for stabilization and revegetation. This material was protected from loss by a straw dike surrounding the base of the pile. No sign was present, however, additional material was still being placed on this stockpile. Should this topsoil remain in place for any extended length of time a sign will be required pursuant to UMC 817.11.

The topsoil storage area above the substation was examined. A good ditch surrounds this area to prevent overland flow from encroaching on any topsoil present. A straw bale may be needed on the lower reaches of this ditch to protect and prevent any topsoil from washing into the ditch and off-site.

UMC 817.41 - .52 Hydrologic Balance

Mine water was currently being routed into the #4 sediment pond. Due to the wet season this year, quite a bit more mine water was being produced in the mine than normal. This creates additional loading problems on the sediment pond. The construction of the mine water filter pond should occur as soon as possible to cease the overloading of the sediment pond from the mine water discharges.

A slump area was observed above the portals. This slumpage may have been caused by a large snow bank nestled into the undisturbed overland diversion road above the portals. As this snow melts water was running down onto the slump area. This flow could enhance further slumpage. Mr. Whiteside committed to examining this area to see if work could be done to prevent water from flowing into the sloughage zone.

Straw bales need replacement virtually throughout the mine area as general spring maintenance proceeds. This was especially noted on the Class III road between the substation and the topsoil storage area. It was agreed upon by Mr. Whiteside that these straw bales could be replaced before the next monthly inspection.

A disturbed area drop-drain just north of the sewage treatment plant and bathhouse was in need of maintenance. Several large rocks had fallen into this drop-drain partially obstructing it. This area was also agreed upon to be maintained before the next inspection.

The old road above the portals and materials storage pad adjacent to the culinary water tank serves as an undisturbed diversion ditch. This road may

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need to be rip-rapped or further stabilized with vegetation as erosion has taken its toll on the channel and outlet. This area will be further examined on subsequent inspections.

The undisturbed diversion ditch south of the coal stockpile area had been encroached by coal during the winter conditions. At the time of this inspection any coal had been removed and the ditch was reestablished. Straw bales were implemented at the outlet of this ditch.

An old electrical spool, tire and a small amount of brattice cloth was observed in the Whiskey Creek bypass area at the toe of the sediment pond #4 embankment. Mr. Whiteside agreed to have this material removed in the near future as part of the general spring clean-up.

During the winter, snow removal and material storage was combined on the materials storage pad. Quite a bit of refuse, pallets, etc. was observed pushed over the berm along the eastern side of this pad. This material should be retrieved as agreed upon.

UMC 817.52 Surface and Groundwater Monitoring

Valley Camp was issued a NPDES permit #UT-0022985 on October 7, 1982. This permit expires on June 30, 1987 and allows discharge from the #4 sediment pond into Whiskey Creek.

Surface water monitoring is conducted on a quarterly basis. Data was available for the first quarter 1983 (January). April's monitoring data had not been returned from Vaughn Hansen at this time. This monitoring data should be submitted to the Division upon receipt.

Water samples of the sediment pond discharge were collected at the time of this inspection. Additional samples were obtained of the Whiskey Creek bypass water as it flows off the end of the sediment pond embankment. Also a water sample of the sediment pond discharge was collected at a point downstream from the straw bales implemented below the discharge point. A fourth sample was collected approximately 100 feet downstream of the confluence of the sediment pond discharge water and the Whiskey Creek bypass drainage. These samples are currently being analyzed by the Utah State Health laboratory.

UMC 817.99 Slides and Other Damage

Slides in the Scofield area have occurred in many areas. One slumpage has occurred above the portal area. No major damage was apparent.

UMC 817.100 Contemporaneous Reclamation

Areas disturbed during the haul road reconstruction will be stabilized and revegetated later this fall. This includes the road cuts and possibly the downslopes of the road. Revegetation success of the downslopes has been greatly hindered in the past due to mud and gravel blown off the road during snow removal operations.

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UMC 817.111 - .117 Revegetation

Areas to be revegetated this fall include any new road cuts disturbed during the development of the haul road resurfacing. Additional revegetation areas may be along the Belina Conveyor Belt Line. Additional areas will be determined in the future before the revegetation season.

Since extreme winter deposition of mud and gravel on the downslopes of the haul road will cease with the road resurfacing, Valley Camp should consider re-establishing vegetation on these downslopes in order to stabilize them.

UMC 817.121 - .126 Subsidence Control

As mentioned in a previous inspection memo the 1982 subsidence aerial surveys were not conducted due to poor weather conditions. Mr. Whiteside indicated that a ground survey would have to be conducted this year to monitor for subsidence.

UMC 817.150 - .176 Roads

The construction of the surfaced Belina Mine haul road was ongoing at the time of this inspection. The road was being re-compacted and graded to specifications. Sedimentation traps and drop drains were being constructed at the time of this inspection. No erosion was evident at this time. Sediment control measures in the form of straw dikes may need to be implemented during the interim of the construction period.

KEN WYATT *KW*
FIELD SPECIALIST

KW/lm

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM
Trevor Whiteside, Valley Camp
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics:

Per Diem: 1 person x 2 days, 4.5 hours = \$74.78
Vehicle: EX #71049 - 637 miles
Grant: A & E