

February 5, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement Folder  
FROM: David Lof, Mining Field Specialist   
RE: Kaiser Steel Corporation, Sunnyside Mine, ACT/007/007,  
Folder # 7, Carbon County, Utah

On January 25, 1985, I conducted a partial inspection of the above mentioned mine site. I was accompanied on the inspection by Scott Johnson of Kaiser Steel Corporation.

Notice of Violation N85-4-1-4, #1 of 4

The above mentioned violation was issued to the operator on January 7, 1985. The violation was issued for the operator's failure to construct the manshaft minewater pond in accordance with their approved interim mine plan. The violation required that the operator submit plans to the Division for approval of the as-built minewater pond by January 24, 1985. The plans were received by the Division on January 24, 1985 and the violation was terminated on January 25, 1985, effective the date of receipt of the abatement plans.

Notice of Violation N85-4-1-4, #2 of 4

This violation was issued for the operator's failure to construct the Hoisthouse Sediment Pond and the Manshaft Sediment Pond in accordance with their approved interim mine plan and for the operator's failure to provide adequate discharge structures from the sediment ponds. The operator was required to submit plans to the Division for approval of the as-built sediment ponds by January 24, 1985. The plans were received by the Division on January 24, 1985 and the violation subsequently terminated on January 25, 1985, effective the date of receipt of the plans.

Notice of Violation N85-4-1-4, #3 of 4

This violation was issued for the operator's failure to conduct weekly sediment pond and impoundment inspections. The remedial action required that the operator start conducting inspections, and keep records as required, immediately upon receipt of the violation.

At the time of my inspection, Mr. Johnson showed me an inspection log book, which indicated that he had inspected the sediment ponds, minewater ponds and slurry cells on both January 12 and January 19, 1985. The inspection log appeared to be complete, however, I suggested to Mr. Johnson that he may want to make notations of weather conditions at the time of the inspection and the time of inspection for each impoundment. The violation was terminated on January 25, 1985, effective January 12, 1985, the date of the first sediment pond inspections.

Notice of Violation N85-4-1-4, #4 of 4

This violation was issued for the operator's failure to conduct inspections of the coarse refuse fill. The remedial action required that the operator conduct inspections of the fill in accordance with UMC 817.82, starting immediately upon receipt of the violation.

On January 18, 1985, the Division received a letter from the operator requesting that we approve Scott Johnson to conduct the inspections of the coarse refuse pile, since Kaiser Steel Corporation does not employ a registered professional engineer at the mine site.

I discussed the operator's request with Division Reclamation Engineer, Pam Grubaugh-Littig, on January 21, 1985. She informed me that the operator must have a registered professional engineer inspect the site or another person who is approved by the Division. In order to be approved by the Division, this person must have completed a MSHA certified training program for the inspection of coal refuse embankments and fills. I informed Mr. Johnson of my discussions with Ms. Grubaugh-Littig during this inspection.

On January 30, 1985, I modified the Notice of Violation to extend the abatement deadline to March 31, 1985. The intent of the modification is to allow the operator time to have the fill inspected by a registered professional engineer, or other person approved by the Division, by the end of the first calendar quarter of 1985. In the cover letter, which accompanied the modification, I reiterated the Division's position regarding the inspection of the coal refuse embankments and fills.

Manshaft Minewater Pond

The water level in the pond was several feet below the spillway and there was no inflow to the pond at the time of the inspection.

### #2 Canyon Undisturbed Channel

A very large boulder had slid off the south facing undisturbed hillside into the #2 Canyon undisturbed channel. The location of the boulder was approximately across from the explosive magazine, which is east of the Upper #2 Canyon Sediment Pond. It was apparent that the boulder had slid into the undisturbed drainage just recently. Mr. Johnson asked if they could use explosives to remove the boulder. I told them that they could as long as they complied with the regulations and told him to make sure they keep a blasting record as required.

### Coal Slurry Settling Ponds

Coal slurry from the preparation plant is normally treated in three settling ponds. Two of the ponds have both a coke breeze dike and a coarse refuse dike to filter the water before discharging into the third pond for storage and further settling. Water from the third pond, called the Clear Water Pond, is used to irrigate a field adjacent to the ponds or released into Iceland Wash at NPDES discharge point 004.

At the time of my inspection, the operator was not using the settling cells. There was no water in them. All the coal slurry currently being produced was going to the old East Slurry Pond. Settling cells #1 and #2 were full of sediment and they had started to clean cell #1, but had discontinued cleaning.

### East Cell of Slurry Pond

The east cell of the old slurry pond is currently receiving all of the coal slurry from the preparation plant. This slurry pond does not have any discharge structure and there is approximately 12-15 feet of freeboard left in the pond.

wj

cc: Scott Johnson, Kaiser Steel Corp.  
Donna Griffin, OSM  
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics:

See Genwal Coal Company, Crandall Canyon Mine memo dated  
February 4, 1985.

0072Q-48-49-50