

0017

File
ACT/007/001



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangertter, Governor
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INSPECTION REPORT

Permittee and/or Operators Name: Valley Camp of Utah, Inc
 Business Address: Scotfield Route 1 Helper, Ut 84526
 Mine Name: Belina Complex Permit Number: ACT/007/001
 Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Other
 County: Carbon
 Company Official(s): Treyor Whiteside, Steve Tanner
 State Official(s): Holland Shepherd, James Leatherwood (DOG M), Henry Austin (OSM)
 Inspection Date and Time: 9-23-86 10:30-4:00, 9-24-86 10:30-5:00
 Partial: Complete: Date of Last Inspection: 8-14-86
 Weather Conditions: cold rain & snow runoff leaving site
 Acreage: Permitted 2837 Disturbed 79 Regraaded 0 Seeded 0 Bonded 79
 Enforcement Action: N86-9-11-1

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	Comments
1. PERMITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DIVERSION'S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE AND SPOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. MAINTENANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES AND UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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General Comments:

This inspection was performed jointly with Mr. Henry Ausitn of the Office of Surface Mining. Also I was accompanied by Mr. James Leatherwood of DOGM, who was involved in inspector training during this site visit. Weather during the inspection was stormy and cold. It rained during the field inspection, and had been raining for several days prior to the inspection.

1. Permits:

A discussion was made concerning current status of the 9 conditions addressed in the operator's permit. The following conditions still need attention: #1, concerning surface water monitoring; #3, concerns the underground monitoring program; #5 and #6, concerning a plan to redistribute topsoil and establishment of revegetation test plots; #7 part 4, concerning commitment to replace affected subsidence areas; and #9, concerning reclamation of the Belina aulroad. It was determined that conditions #1 and #7 still need attention, after a dicussion with Suzan Linner following this inspection. The operator and the Division have been working towards the resolution of these conditions for several months, several of them are almost complete at this time. The status of these conditions will be addressed in the upcoming mid-term review.

3. Topsoil:

1) Substitute topsoil material which had been temporarily stored at the Utah #2 site has been moved to the permanent stockpile storage site at Belina. The material has been deposited to the east of the previously existing stockpile. The operator has bermed up around the base of the material with a large berm which should adequately protect it.

2) The berm protecting the previously existing stockpile, along the northern toe needs to be maintained by heightening it. Material from the pile has been sloughing off the side and filling up this berm. Discussion was made between the operator and Mr. Leatherwood

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Trevor Whiteside, Donna Griffin
Given to: Joe Helfrich, Sue Linner, James Leatherwood

Inspector's signature and number: Walter D. Phelps #9 10-8-86

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concerning the need to seed the topsoil stockpile to ensure stability and prevent erosion. Mr. Tanner was not eager to have the stockpile revegetated, explaining that the procedures required for seeding would only act to cause more erosion. However, it was the consensus of others present that the stockpile should be seeded. In a later consultation with individuals concerned at the Division it was decided to request that Valley Camp reseed the topsoil stockpile this fall, if at all possible, with hydromulching perhaps being the best application.

3) Mr. Tanner requested that the Division look into redefining the boundaries and ditch requirements of the topsoil stockpile area, during the mid-term review. He suggested that the requirement for a ditch on the south side of the stockpile be removed, as this ditch serves no functional purpose; the toe of the topsoil stockpile, on the south side, is already protected by a berm. Mr. Leatherwood and myself concurred with this suggestion. Also Mr. Tanner suggested that the boundary of the stockpile, on the northern edge be extended downslope approximately 30 feet, to allow for and catch any material which might escape from the stockpile.

4.c. Sediment Ponds and Impoundments:

1) Pond inspections are current through the second quarter of 1986. The last round of inspections was completed 9-15-86. The operator indicated that ponds #2 and #3 need cleaning. Pond #3 will be cleaned and the north embankment will be raised to allow more storage capacity for the coal storage pile.

2) The operator recently started inspecting the sediment ponds quarterly instead of annually. The new inspection frequency will be changed in the permit as part of the mid-term review process.

3) The operator is currently working on sediment pond #4. The pond is being cleaned of sediment, and repairwork will be taking place afterward. The operator started dredging the pond on August 11th 1986 and will continue dredging through October 3rd 1986. After cleaning is complete the operator will be replacing the entire stand pipe structure, which has been damaged by winter pond icing.

Inspector's signature and number: _____

Willie D. #9 10-8-86

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4) Pond #5 was discharging during the inspection. A full suite of samples were collected. Recently the operator installed a bypass pipe to the pond's discharge point. The pipe discharges water from an abandoned section of the mine. This new installation should be added onto the permit during the mid-term review.

4.e. Surface and Groundwater Monitoring:

1) NoV 86-9-11-1 was issued because the operator failed to collect surface water monitoring data for the months of April and May of 1986. The operator has committed to collect monitoring data yearly during the months of April through July and then either September or August. Mr. Whiteside explained that the monitoring is contracted out to Van Hansen and Associates, and that they had forgotten to sample in April and May.

2) I spoke to Mr. Whiteside about the possibility of changing some of the parameters that the mine is currently sampling for. I pointed out that the mid-term permit review is coming up and that this is a good time to petition the Division for a change in the sampling requirements that the operator has for water monitoring. In a discussion with Suzan Linner, Division Permit Supervisor, I was informed that Valley Camp had never commented on Condition # 1 of their permit, relative to the parameters to be monitored. This condition addresses the surface water water monitoring program at Valley Camp.

I spoke with Mr. Whiteside about the possibility of adding oil and grease to a couple sampling locations, and about removing some parameters from others. Mr. Whiteside seemed interested in negotiating the removal of some parameters, but not adding oil and grease.

4.f. Effluent Limitations:

1) Water monitoring data for the operator's NPDES locations is current through August of 86.

2) The operator reported a TDS value of 705, as being over the limit, in his July 15, 1986 NPDES monitoring report. According to the operators permit values of less than 750 mg/l TDS are acceptable.

Inspector's signature and number: Halle Shepherd #9 10-8-86

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4.d. Other Sediment Controls Measures:

During inspection of the Belina haulroad turn-in area, drainage controls and drainage coming of the road were observed. Runoff was being generated by rain and snow precipitating during the inspection. The operator had installed three rows of straw dikes along the drainage ditch coming of the haulroad. Even with the installation of the three dikes, runoff appeared to be of marginal quality after treatment. It is my opinion and that of the other two inspectors with me on this inspection (Mr. Henry Austin and Mr. James Leatherwood), that this area needs to be re-evaluated by Division hydrologists and the operator to determine if an upgrading of controls is needed. Snow blowing of winter road material also needs to be taken into consideration during the re-evaluation of this area. This area should be addressed during the mid-term review.

14. Subsidence Control:

Subsidence monitoring at Belina is performed by the operator and the Forest Service. The operator performs a pedestrian survey once a year and the Forest Service does a fly over. The operator submits monitoring information to the Division once a year, and it is included in the annual report.

18. Support Facilities:

According to Mr. Tanner the operator plans to install a waste oil tank and wash bay facility at the Belina mine site. The location will be in the vicinity of the maintenance building and to the north of the mine portal. If the operator does go ahead with this plan he is advised to submit this information as part of the mid-term review process, as an amendment to the plan.

Inspector's signature and number: _____

Will Shedd #9 10-8-86