



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 8, 1994

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
P 074 976 127

Mr. David Lung
Valley Camp Coal Company
P.O. Box 900
Oil City, PA 16391

Re: Proposed Assessment for State Violation No. N94-39-2-1, Valley Camp of Utah, Inc., Belina Complex, ACT/007/001, Folder #5, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Glasson:

The undersigned has been appointed by the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R645-401.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above-referenced violation. The violation was issued on March 8, 1994 by Inspector Jesse Kelley. Rule R645-401-600 et. sec. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty. By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Notice of Violation, has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty.

Under R645-401-700, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

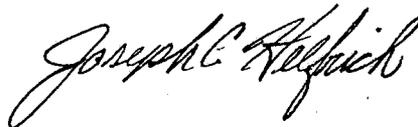
1. If you wish to informally appeal the fact of this violation, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within 30 days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.
2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within 30 days of receipt of



this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph 1, the Assessment Conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of violation will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the proposed assessment. Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Vicki Bailey.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Helfrich
Assessment Officer

/sm

Enclosure

cc: Bernie Freeman, OSM
Mike Gipson

WORKSHEET FOR ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES
UTAH DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

COMPANY/MINE Valley Camp of Utah, Inc./Belina Complex

NOV #N94-39-2-1

PERMIT # ACT/007/001

VIOLATION 1 OF 1

ASSESSMENT DATE 06/08/94

ASSESSMENT OFFICER Joseph C. Helfrich

I. **HISTORY MAX 25 PTS**

- A. Are there previous violations which are not pending or vacated, which fall within 1 year of today's date?

ASSESSMENT DATE 06/08/94

EFFECTIVE ONE YEAR TO DATE 06/08/94

PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS	EFFECTIVE DATE	POINTS
<u>N93-39-4-1</u>	<u>01/08/94</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>N93-39-6-1</u>	<u>11/29/93</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>N93-39-7-1</u>	<u>01/19/94</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>N93-39-9-2 1&2</u>	<u>01/19/94</u>	<u>2</u>

1 point for each past violation, up to one year;
5 points for each past violation in a CO, up to one year;
No pending notices shall be counted.

TOTAL HISTORY POINTS 5

II. **SERIOUSNESS (either A or B)**

NOTE: For assignment of points in Parts II and III, the following applies. Based on the facts supplied by the inspector, the Assessment Officer will determine within which category, the Assessment Officer will adjust the points up or down, utilizing the inspector's and operator's statements as guiding documents.

Is this an Event (A) or Hindrance (B) violation? Event

A. Event Violations Max 45 PTS

1. What is the event which the violated standard was designed to prevent?

Activity outside the approved permit area. Conducting activities without appropriate approvals. Environmental harm. Water pollution. Loss of reclamation/revegetation potential. Reduced establishment of a permanent diverse and effective vegetative cover.

2. What is the probability of the occurrence of the event which a violated standard was designed to prevent? Occurred.

... PROBABILITY	RANGE
... None	0
... Unlikely	1-9
... Likely	10-19
... Occurred	20

ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS 20

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

Activity Outside the Approved Permit Area

The deposition of material including, but not limited to, snow, salt, sediment and suspended solids outside the approved permit area was evidenced by samples and photographs of sedimentary materials entering Eccles Creek.

Conducting Activities Without Appropriate Approvals

Several weeks prior to issuance of the notice of violation, Steve Tanner, representative for the permittee, was contacted by Steve Demczak at which time Mr. Tanner was requested to provide to Mr. Demczak information in the approved mining and reclamation plan which allowed for the deposition of snow, salt, sediment and suspended solids onto the outslope of the Belina haul road. Mr. Tanner did not provide any information found in the approved mining and reclamation plan relevant to said activity. The road drainage portion of the approved mining and reclamation plan (page 4) stated that, "Road drainage will be accomplished by 1) Sloping the road surface towards the inner embankment and 2) Constructing an accompanying drainage ditch paralleling the roadway when required to prevent excessive erosion, or to prevent spillage into another runoff drainage basin. After collecting surface runoff, the drainage ditch system diverts surface runoff to a downstream channel or sedimentation pond. When runoff is derived from undisturbed surface areas, the road drainage system redirects surface flows to natural channels."

Environmental Harm

The activity referenced in the notice of violation extended beyond the permittee's disturbed area boundary for the Belina haul road, as well as into the stream buffer zone. Inasmuch as the permittee's mining and reclamation plan is silent with respect to the activities occurring in these two areas, environmental harm is deemed to have occurred as well as the deposition of additional suspended solids into Eccles Creek as evidenced by samples taken by Steven Demczak and Scott Milovich.

Loss of Reclamation/Revegetation Potential and Reduced Establishment of a Permanent Diverse and Effective Vegetative Cover

The occurrence of these two events resulted from the deposition of snow, salt, sediment and suspended solids onto the outslope of the Belina haul road.

- 3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage?

RANGE 0 - 25*

*In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

ASSIGN DAMAGE POINTS 25

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

The resulting effect of the activity extended off the permittee's disturbed area boundary as well as permit area boundary. The extent of damage was approximately one and a half to three acres. The duration occurred in two phases. Phase one being depositoin of material from initial snow blowing until final snowmelt approximately mid-October through early May and the second portion of the duration is relative to the portion of the Belina haul road that drained into Eccles Creek being approximately five hours of deposition per day for several weeks.

B. Hindrance Violations MAX 25 PTS

- 1. Is this a potential or actual hindrance to enforcement?

RANGE 0 - 25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

ASSIGN HINDRANCE POINTS _____

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS (A or B) 45

III. NEGLIGENCE MAX 30 PTS

- A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? **IF SO - NO NEGLIGENCE;**
 OR Was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference, lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, or the failure to abate any violation due to the same? **IF SO - NEGLIGENCE;**
 OR Was this violation the result of reckless, knowing, or intentional conduct? **IF SO - GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.**

... No Negligence	0
... Negligence	1-15
... Greater Degree of Fault	16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE Greater Degree of Fault

ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 30

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

The permittee intended the material to be deposited outside the disturbed area into the steam buffer zone and into Eccles Creek.

IV. GOOD FAITH MAX 20 PTS. (EITHER A or B) (Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures.)

- A. Did the operator have onsite the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?
 ... **IF SO - EASY ABATEMENT**
 Easy Abatement Situation
 ... **Immediate Compliance -11 to -20***
 ... Immediately following the issuance of the NOV)

- ... **Rapid Compliance** -1 to -10*
 (Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- ... **Normal Compliance** 0
 (Operator complied within the abatement period required)
 (Operator complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

* Assign in upper or lower half of range depending on abatement occurring in 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.

B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance OR does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

... **IF SO - DIFFICULT ABATEMENT**

Difficult Abatement Situation

- ... **Rapid Compliance** -11 to -20*
 (Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- ... **Normal Compliance** -1 to -10*
 (Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- ... **Extended Compliance** 0
 (Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard, or the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)
 (Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? **ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS** -0

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

To be evaluated upon termination of the violation.

V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FOR N94-39-2-1

I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	<u>5</u>
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	<u>45</u>
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	<u>30</u>
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS	<u>-0</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	<u>80</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED FINE	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>

/sm