



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

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: X Complete: Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: May 2, 1996, 1:15 am - 4:40 pm
Date of Last Inspection: April 30, 1996

Mine Name: White Oak Mining and Construction Co. County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/001

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Scofield Route, Helper, UT 84526

Business Address: SAME

Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface Prep. Plant Other

State Official(s): Ken Wyatt

Company Official(s): Steve Tanner, Maurice Turpin

Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy, cool

Existing Acreage: Permitted- Disturbed- Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-

Increased/Decreased: Permitted- Disturbed- Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-

Status: Exploration/ X Active/ Inactive/ Temporary Cessation/ Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (Phase I/ Phase II/ Final Bond Release/ Liability Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- 1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
a. For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

Table with 5 columns: Item, EVALUATED, N/A, COMMENTS, NOV/ENF. Rows include items like PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE; SIGNS AND MARKERS; TOPSOIL; HYDROLOGIC BALANCE; DIVERSIONS; SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS; etc.



INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 2 of 4

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: April 30, 1996

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

4a. **HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS**

Some diversions at the loadout, the mine area, and along the mine haul road were in need of maintenance. Many of these channels have not been cleaned and graded this spring. Debris, sediment and trash was observed in some of these. Due to this lack of maintenance, Notice of Violation N96-7-2-3 # 1 of 3 was issued on May 3, 1996 as described below:

NOV N96-7-2-3

Violation No. 1 of 3

Nature of Violation

Failure to maintain ditches and diversions and culverts.

Provisions of the act, regulations or permit violated

R645-301-742 et. seq.

R645-301-742.400

R645-300-143

Portion of the operation to which notice applies

Ditches, diversions and culverts at the #2 loadout.

Ditches, diversions and culverts at the #1 mine.

Ditches, diversions and culverts along mine haul road.

Remedial action required (including any interim steps)

Maintain ditches, diversions and culverts in accordance with the approved plan.

Abatement time

One week, no later than 5:00 pm Friday May 10, 1996.

4b. **SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS**

Notice of Violation N96-7-1-1 was issued on March 27, 1996 for a leak in embankment of pond 002a. White is determining what action they intend to pursue prior to completing repair work on this pond. Two options are being considered. The first is to repair the pond to the specifications as describe in the permit. A second option is to relocate the pond in order to expand the coal stockpile area. If the second option is chosen, White Oak will need to assess the area just south of this pond in regards to wetland delineation. An Army Corp. Of Engineers (ACE) permit may be needed to disturb this area. Mr. Tanner stated that they have contacted the ACE to get a determination as to whether this area is a true wetland requiring mitigation. NOV N96-7-1-1 was modified on May 6, 1996 to require White Oaks to submit a description of the repair work required to return the pond to the permitted design. This was done to keep the permitting process moving to prevent a failure to abate situation.

4c. **OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES**

Snow was melting during the inspection and several problems were observed along the mine haul road. The strawbale sediment controls along Eccles Creek were in a state of dis-repair. Additionally, White Oak's snow removal activities from the mine access road have left a large snow pile just west of the mine turnoff from Eccles Canyon. This snow was melting and runoff was observed entering Eccles Creek from this area prior to treatment. Another area further up the mine access road, adjacent to culvert C-25-36, was observed where

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 3 of 4

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: April 30, 1996

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

snow removal activities has had created another pile of snow which was causing runoff problems. Due to these conditions, Notice of Violation N96-7-2-3 #2 of 3 was issued as described below:

NOV N96-7-2-3

Violation No. 2 of 3

Nature of Violation

Failure to maintain sediment controls.

Provisions of the act, regulations or permit violated

R645-301-742 et. Seq.

R645-300-143

Portion of the operation to which notice applies

Strawbale sediment controls at the turnout from Eccles Canyon Road and the mine haul road.

1. Area along Eccles Creek at the base of haul road out slope.
2. Area west of turnout where snow pile is located.
3. Area on mine haul road at culvert C-25-36

Remedial action required (including any interim steps)

Maintain sediment control structures in accordance with the approved plan and to meet the requirements of the regulations.

Abatement time

One week, no later than 5:00 pm Friday May 10, 1996.

16b. **ROADS: DRAINAGE CONTROLS**

At the turnout to the mine from Eccles Canyon, snow removal operations during the winter has resulted in the berm along the outside edge of the road being scraped away. The two culverts adjacent to the mine ID sign had become blocked which allowed runoff to flow over the road edge onto the road down slope causing significant erosion of the down slope. These were open during this inspection. As a result of this situation and the subsequent erosion, Notice of Violation N96-7-2-3 #3 of 3 was issued as described below.

NOV N96-7-2-3

Violation No. 3 of 3

Nature of Violation

Failure to maintain drainage controls as described in the approved plan to minimize erosion to the extent possible.

Provisions of the act, regulations or permit violated

R645-301-742.400

R645-300-143

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 4 of 4

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: April 30, 1996

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Portion of the operation to which notice applies

Mine haul road berm, culvert inlet and road down slope adjacent to turnoff from Eccles Canyon where snow plowing activity has removed the berm causing water to bypass road culverts thereby eroding the down slope.

Remedial action required (including any interim steps)

- A) Submit plans to the Division for repair of erosion of road down slope including repair of drainage controls and the road berm.
- B) Update appropriate maps to include two culverts adjacent to the mine ID sign at the turnout.
- C) Implement these plans upon approval.

Abatement time

- A) 2 weeks; No later than 5:00 pm Friday May 17, 1996
- B) 2 Weeks; No later than 5:00 pm Friday May 17, 1996.
- C) Within 30 days of Division approval.

This NOV was amended on May 8, 1996, to include an additional area which was omitted from the original NOV. The amendment reads as follows:

Portion of the Operation to Which Notice Applies

ADD: Haul road down slope below culverts C-23-24 and C-22-24.

Copy of this Report:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Mailed to: <u>Steve Tanner, (White Oak)</u> | <u>James Fulton, (OSM)</u> |
| Given to: <u>Joe Helfrich, (DOGM)</u> | <u>Filed To: Price Field Office</u> |

Inspector's Signature: Ken Wyatt Date: May 9, 1996