

0022



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

(B)

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801  
801-538-5340  
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Partial: XXX Complete:      Exploration:     

Inspection Date & Time: 10/20/99 / 8:15a.m.-1:30p.m.

Date of Last Inspection: 9/23/99

Mine Name: White Oak #1 & #2 County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/001  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Lodestar Energy, Inc. and subsidiaries  
Business Address: Scofield Route, Helper, Utah 84526  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface      Prep. Plant      Other       
Company Official(s): Vicky Miller  
State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Clear, Cold, 30's (in morning)  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 3746 Disturbed- 140.2 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 140.2  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-      Disturbed-      Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded-       
Status: Exploration/ XXX 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

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - 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.
  - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) (date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING  
 OCT 25 1999

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(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 10/20/99

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

It was determined this day that two volumes of the mining and reclamation plan are missing from the Price field office copy. Ms. Miller has previously copied the two missing volumes for EarthFax's use from the SLO copy. It is her intent to provide another copy of the missing volumes for the PFO, either through the UDNR/OGM or through EarthFax.

4a. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS

The loadout area was inspected this day for drainage control. Based on today's observations, numerous ditches need maintenance work. Uncontrolled drainage was observed in several locations (flows over roads), and erosion has cut gullies along road berms in several places.

The following areas need maintenance work, based on field observations and a review of Map R645-301-731.720a, VALCAM sediment control facilities:

- 1) D-16A; this ditch carries runoff from the SE portion of the coal storage pile to pond 003A. It appears that most of the runoff does not report to the ditch; a major erosion gully exists in this area, particularly where the flow drops over the embankment into the pond. It was suggested that the gullied area be dressed up and a berm installed to direct flows into the pond inlet ditch, D-16A.
- 2) Ditch D-16B; this is another inlet ditch to pond 003A on the opposite side of the coal stockpile. Where the ditch drops over the bank, vertical sides exist, indicating erosive cutting. Maintenance needs to be performed; riprap may be worth considering here.
- 3) Ditch D-8 (NW side of truck dump facility) has silted in to the extent that flows in same meander; portions of this same ditch also show eroded vertical banks. Ditch D-8 needs to be redefined.
- 4) Culvert C-15-24 contains two 4 inch and two 1 inch electrical conduits. It is not known how long this installation has existed in this manner. It was suggested to Ms. Miller that flow calculations be evaluated to determine if the reduction of cross section of the culvert affects the flow capacity of the culvert, (i.e., is the culvert oversized to accommodate the conduits plus the design flow). If this is not the case, a potential compliance issue exists.
- 5) Ditch D-5B needs to be redefined for the length of the salt storage building (vertical ditch sides and meanders exist in much of this length).
- 6) A basin configuration exists ESE of the truck dump facility, where the truck dump conveyor exits the grizzly. A half round culvert (18" ?) was observed on the SW corner of this in slope; this does not appear on the drainage control map previously mentioned and may have been implemented without proper approvals.
- 7) Water has run down the coal stockpile pad access road on the opposite side of the road from where ditch D-7B should be carrying the flow. The flows have occurred here long enough to cut gullies along the road edge; thence they turn the corner of the access road to the truck dump basin and flow uncontrolled down this slope.

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(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

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It appears that there are several aspects of the drainage control plan in this area which are either not functioning as designed, or of poor design.

It may be possible for the permittee to re-slope the pad access road so that all drainage reports to D-7B.

The site needs a complete evaluation of field drainage conditions; maintenance procedures should be started as soon as possible on the aforementioned items, plus any other items which may be discovered by in-house compliance inspections.

Ms. Miller was asked if a reference chart relative to ditch cross sections existed within the mining and reclamation plan. She plans to look for same.

It should be noted here that a sufficient number of drainage control issues were noted this day to warrant a compliance issue. However, in light of the fact that a new permittee has taken over the site and a new inspector has been assigned, a grace period seems reasonable. Ms. Miller was informed that significant progress must be made before next month.

At this point, it appears that a complete re-evaluation of the drainage control design for the site may be necessary.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

A roll of telephone communication line was found at the outlet of culvert C-4-42, with another fifty feet of same extending out through the vegetation onto the pad. The cable may be usable; it was suggested that it be rolled up and placed in a proper storage location.

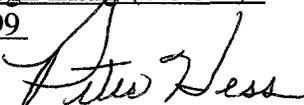
16b. ROADS: DRAINAGE CONTROLS

See *Hydrologic Balance: Diversions* above.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: David Miller/Vicky Miller (White Oak/EarthFax) Henry Austin (OSM)  
Given to: Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office  
Date: October 21, 1999

Inspector's Signature:  #46  
Peter Hess