



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

*WAM*

## INSPECTION REPORT

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Kathleen Clarke  
Executive Director  
Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

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Partial:      Complete: XXX Exploration:       
Inspection Date & Time: 5/16/2000 / 8:00a.m.-2:00p.m.  
Date of Last Inspection: 4/11/2000

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): David Miller  
State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Sunny, Cool  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 3746 Disturbed- 142.8 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 142.8  
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

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.

	<u>EVALUATED</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>NOV/ENF</u>
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MAY 30 2000

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS AND MINING

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

Many of the signs at the site are in poor condition; these include stream buffer zone signs along Whiskey Creek and disturbed area perimeter markers about the site. Mr. Miller provided this inspector a list of "to do" items which will address many of the items necessary to bring the White Oak site into R645 compliance. Repair and/or maintenance of the various signs on site is one of those items.

4A. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS

There are a couple of concerns relative to the surface drainage plan/map at the mine site:

- 1) an eighteen inch steel pipe is located under the east section of the truck loading loop which carries drainage from the inner loop (material storage area) to ditch D-34B. This pipe is not shown on drawing number R645-301-521.124, sheet 4 of 4, "as built", which was P.E. certified by Richard B. White, P.E., of EarthFax Engineering on September 8, 1999.
- 2) a ditch exists along the pond side of the access road to pond 004A; this ditch is not shown on the drawing which is referred to above.
- 3) a flow was observed running over the outslope due east of the #1 Mine fan portal (portal #16). The slope is well vegetated; no erosion was observed. This is, however, not how the surface drainage system is supposed to function. Mr. Miller intends to reroute this flow such that it reports to the culvert which was replaced as part of the mitigation of N2000-46-1-2, 1 of 2, "Failure to Maintain Diversions".

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The first quarter 2000 impoundment inspections for the White Oak mine site were conducted by Mr. Layne Jensen, P.E., of EarthFax Engineering on March 24, 2000. There were no signs of instability or other hazards noted for any of the inspected impoundments. Mr. Jensen's reports indicate that it was not possible to determine sediment levels in any of the ponds; however, sediment levels are indicated in the fourth quarter inspections of the 1999 annual report.

4C. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

The silt fence in the road ditch just below the topsoil stockpile (up-canyon from the main mine substation) is in need of maintenance.

The straw bales which treat the runoff reporting to them opposite the topsoil stockpile are askew and need repair to make them function as designed.

The permittee was observed installing new silt containment material about the base of the topsoil pile located at the rail loadout. This fence, in conjunction with the vegetation on the pile, provide the means to retain this resource.

4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

Discharge monitoring reports for the months of January, February, and March, 2000 were reviewed. None of the site's UPDES outfalls discharged during this period. All reports were submitted in a timely fashion; Ms. Vicki Miller completes these EPA forms for the permittee.

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(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

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The first quarter 2000 water monitoring report for the site was not available for review. Today's inspection was not able to determine the status of this report; Ms. Vicki Miller informed me on 5/23/00 that she would forward a copy of same to the PFO. During the first quarter, Ms. Vicki Miller helped train White Oak personnel who are responsible for water monitoring.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The first quarter 2000 spoil pile inspection was conducted by Mr. Layne Jensen, P.E. on March 24, 2000; same was P.E. certified on 3/28/00. There were no signs of instability reported; the pile was noted as being snow covered.

10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE

On April 12, 2000 a violation was issued to the permittee which pertained to a subsidence slump located on the outslope of the inter-burden between the #1 and #2 Mines. On May 10, 2000, the permittee provided additional information to the Division which same feels should be evaluated such that a justification, as to why this violation should be vacated, might be made. Evaluation of that information is pending.

14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL

On March 27, 2000, Mr. Bruce T.S. Ware, Registered Land Surveyor installed additional control and subsidence monitoring points within the White Oak permit. It is assumed that these were installed to monitor the surface of the new 160 acre lease area.

16B. ROADS: DRAINAGE CONTROLS

Ditches D-35 and D-37A need to be redefined to meet specification as outlined within the mining and reclamation plan.

The shallow concrete drainage ditch which reports road drainage from the Belina primary haul road to various drop inlets thence to Eccles Creek has several areas where chunks of concrete have been broken out. The permittee has committed to continuing to repair this damage during the year 2000 as part of ACT/007/001-AM99B.

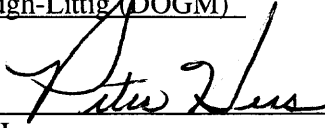
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT

The permittee still needs to replace several missing fugitive dust control doors on the run-of-mine coal stacking tube. This is required within the sites Air Quality approval order.

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 (Lodestar) Henry Austin (OSM)  
Given to: Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office  
Date: May 24, 2000

Inspector's Signature:  #46  
Peter Hess