

0023



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

*Ad*

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

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PO Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801  
801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
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Partial: XXX Complete:    Exploration:   

Inspection Date & Time: 6/21/2000 / 7:30a.m.-11:00a.m.

Date of Last Inspection: 5/16/2000

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: HC 35 Box 370, Helper, Utah 84526  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface    Prep. Plant    Other     
Company Official(s): John Walters  
State Officials(s): Peter Hess, Bob Davidson Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy, 70's  
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 6/21/2000

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

Mr. Dave Miller discussed with this individual the possibility of receiving a reduction in frequency as well as a reduction in the number of water monitoring points for the permit area in and around Coal and Cox Canyons. The reduction in frequency would be to go from three monitoring quarters annually to two monitoring quarters. Mr. Miller was told that this was a hydrologic issue and that as such, it would need review by the assigned Division hydrologist. It was suggested that the permittee work up the proposal as a permit amendment and submit it with adequate justifications as to why same felt a reduction in the frequency and the number of sampling points was justified. Additional analysis of the current CHIA will be necessary prior to the approval or denial of this proposal.

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

The permittee has ordered "stream buffer zone" signs to replace those which are in poor condition along Whiskey Creek.

3. TOPSOIL

Mr. Robert Davidson was on site this morning for a portion of today's field inspection. His purpose was to assist Mr. John Walters in determining if certain soils would be acceptable to fill in a void at the discharge end of culvert C-23-24, which formerly carried flows under the primary coal haul access road, thence to a half-round culvert on the slope above Eccles Creek. The half round culvert has been removed, following proper permitting action (AM99B) through the Division. Due to the excessive steepness of the outslope, no soil will be placed in the void. It is felt that it would be virtually impossible to hold any soils in place, until sufficient vegetation could be reestablished. The sprouting of some grass is evident in the depression which was left following removal of the half round.

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Walters obtained a representative sample of soil and then proceeded to determine the pH of same. It appears that the soil is acceptable for use to fill the void at the discharge end of C-23-24.

4C. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

The permittee needs to perform maintenance on the straw bales on the west end of ditch D-21 (ditch on south side of Belina haul road just off of Highway 264). Flows have either under cut or end-run the three straw dikes in place here. Mr. Walters made note of this. In this same general area, a pile (approximately half of a pickup truck load) of snow removal debris (dirt, road chips, salt) has been temporarily stored. Mr. Walters indicated that this would be removed, so as to prevent a potential for the contribution of additional suspended solids to Eccles Creek, which is a short distance away.

The permittee has repaired an erosion gully on the outslope just south of culvert C-21-48 (undisturbed bypass culvert for Eccles Creek under the junction of the Belina haul road and Highway 264). Same occurred when a flow breached the berm beneath the haul road guard rail at

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(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/001

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this location. Although there are some old straw bales at the toe of this gully repair, they are well silted in, such that even a moderate event in this area might overtop same. It was suggested that Mr. Walters install a convex sediment containment fence at the toe of the repair to prevent the potential for sediment laden runoff to report directly to Eccles Creek.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

The permittee is making progress about the site regarding disposal of scrap metals. An improvement in housekeeping is also apparent.

11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION

The repaired areas of the two notices of violation which were issued to Lodestar Energy on April 12, 2000 are showing vegetation. The permittee has implemented artificial irrigation to enhance the stabilization of these areas. Straw mulch helps to retain moisture.

16B. ROADS: DRAINAGE CONTROLS

The permittee has yet to make any progress on the repair of the shallow concrete ditch (Belina haul road drainage system) which was part of AM99B. However, it should be noted that many items about the site which needed attention have been addressed, and these have been performed in a workmanlike manner. Resources are being stretched to bring this site into R645 compliance as quickly as possible.

20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT

The fugitive dust control flaps on the #2 Mine coal stacking tube have not been replaced to date. This was also noted in the May inspection report. The maintenance of these dust control doors is a requirement of the State of Utah's Air Quality Approval Order. This item was specifically pointed out to Mr. John Walters, who indicated that the doors are often removed accidentally by dozer operators. It was suggested that pieces of scrap conveyor belting be bolted to the stacking tube, such that they will be hinged to allow coal to exit the tube when necessary.

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: June 26, 2000

Inspector's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Peter Hess

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