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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

*PG 2 by [signature]*

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## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: XXX Complete: \_\_\_\_\_ Exploration: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection Date & Time: 01/03/2001 / 8 AM - 2 PM  
Date of Last Inspection: 12/07/2000

Mine Name: White Oak #1 and #2 County: Carbon Permit Number: C/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): Mr. Dave Miller, P.E., Business Manager  
State Official(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Clear, sunny; mid-30's Fahrenheit  
Existing Acreage: Permitted 3746 Disturbed 140.2 Regraded \_\_\_\_\_ Seeded \_\_\_\_\_  
Status: Active XXX

### REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

- 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	<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 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 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 (4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter- April, May, June)	<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"/>

## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 1/03/2001

( COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE )

### 1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

The amendment to permit the mining of outcrop coals in the #1 and #2 Mine surface facilities area is still in the preparation process. Mr. Miller was unable to forecast a submittal date for this amendment.

### 4A. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS

The diversions which are exposed to radiant warming for the better part of the day appear to be functioning as designed. Many of the diversions contain snow or frozen snow melt.

It was observed this day that ditch DD-33A once again had conveyor belting in it from the equipment recovery process in the #2 Mine. Equipment operators pull lengths of belting from the Mine in several 100 foot lengths and drag it down the road adjacent to the coal storage pad. Often times, it is then drug up on the embankment. Much of the belting ends up in the ditch designated as D-33A. It was difficult to ascertain if the belting was, in itself, blocking the minor amount of runoff which was flowing in the ditch. Same was exposed in several areas, but in general, the flow was running beneath ice which had accumulated from freezing of previous flows, and then across the road immediately upgrade of the loading loop's junction. This is uncontrolled drainage, which is a potential compliance issue. This was discussed with Mr. Dave Miller. The permittee has recovered thousands of feet of old belting from the Mine, and rolled it for sale or use at the Horizon project. The permittee's belt winder is at the Horizon project; thus, it is not possible for the permittee to wind belt at White Oak at this time. The importance of keeping the surface drainage system functional is considered to be of primary importance here, with the proper control of noncoal waste secondary.

### 4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

A review of the water monitoring data which the permittee had available from the fourth quarter of 2000 was performed.

The following ground water monitoring locations were reported as having "no flow"; S36-17, S31-13, S36-7, S24-12, S25-13, S36-19, and surface water monitoring site VC-4.

Surface water sites VC-1, VC-2, VC-4, VC-5, and VC-10, 11 and 12 were all sampled, and all required field parameters and analytical parameters were obtained.

Surface flows were monitored in Cox Canyon with sites SCOX 1-6, SCOX 8, SCOX 12, SCOX 14A and COX reported as not having flow. All other points in Cox Canyon reported flows of <1 GPM. All sites having flows were monitored for the required field parameters and well as the required analytical parameters.

Ms. Vicki Miller informed me this day that although monitoring in Coal Canyon had been conducted by her, she had not forwarded that information to the permittee.

### 8. NONCOAL WASTE

The permittee positions a roll-off type dumpster for noncoal waste WSW of the bath house /administration building.

**INSPECTION REPORT**

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 1/03/2001

On the western end of same, someone had piled a fifty-foot length of scrap conveyor belting at the head of the embankment. A new Isuzu tire and rim was spotted over the berm at the top of the slope, as well as various other types of garbage.

There were several automotive batteries observed in the shop area sitting directly on the ground, partially buried by snow. Batteries which are discharged have the potential to freeze and break the cases, allowing their electrolyte to contaminate the surroundings.

The aforementioned items, plus the belting in ditch D-33A mentioned above, were discussed with Mr. Miller. Although much of the site is under snow, the permittee needs to get better control of the noncoal waste in the surface facilities area of this Mine.

**14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL**

Ms. Vicki Miller informed me this day that to date, she has not forwarded the information relative to the annual surface walkover/inspection of mining related surface impacts to the permittee.

**20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT**

During the field inspection of the rail loading facility, it was observed that as the dual-trailer coal trucks access the inbound lane of the unloading loop, a great deal of fugitive dust is being thrown into suspension. Photographs of this have been taken.

Although the unloading loop is paved, a lot of coal fines exist on the pavement. It is well understood that the short daylight hours and the potential for ice formation on the roadway may prevent the extensive use of water to control fugitive dust in the area. It was recommended to the permittee that the issue be discussed with the yard foreman at the tippie to see what might be accomplished to reduce these fugitive dust concentrations. The sweeping or vacuuming of the fines from the paved area may be an option here in lieu of watering.

The permittee's air quality approval order is issued by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality. As such, that agency is the lead, should enforcement be deemed necessary to address the aforementioned issue. As noted above, the permittee has been given the opportunity to address this issue. A phone call was made to Jeff Dean, DAQ, on January 23, 2001 to notify him about this fugitive dust situation. He said that he will follow-up on this.

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

  
Peter Hess #46

Date: January 23, 2001

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

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cc: James Fulton, OSM  
David Miller, Lodestar  
Price Field office

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