

0020



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: _____ Complete: XXX Exploration: _____
Inspection Date & Time: 08/06/2001 / 9 AM-1 PM
Date of Last Inspection: 07/11/2001

*Paul
Pappas*

Mine Name: White Oak #1 and #2 County: Carbon Permit Number: C/007/001
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Lodestar Energy, Inc.
Business Address: HC 35 Box 370, Helper, Utah 84526
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface _____ Prep. Plant _____ Other _____
Company Official(s): Mr. Kit Pappas, Engineering Department
State Official(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy, cooler, humid.
Existing Acreage: Permitted 3906 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 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 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 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 ISSUES	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4 th Quarter- April, May, June)	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 08/06/2001

(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

Note: The permittee indicated this day that the completion of underground extraction activities in the #2 Mine will occur on or about August 17, 2001.

4A. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS

The ditch between the #1 and #2 portal of the Belina #2 Mine needs to be redefined.

Broken lengths of timber were observed in the ditch just outby the #1 portal of the Belina #2 Mine.

Although the ditch is not designated on the map designated as, "White Oak Mine, R645-301-521.124 Mine Site Disturbance" (as are other ditches), same is located NE of the truck loading loop which is used for mining apparatus storage. The ditch contained numerous pieces of large diameter electrical conduit and lighting implements, roof bolt plates, crib blocks, etc. The ditch drains directly into pond 004A.

Ditch D-6, which is located at the rail loading facility between the truck shop and the undisturbed outslope to Mud Creek (ditch flow reports to pond 002A) is silted in and needs re-define.

Mr. Pappas agreed to address all of the aforementioned maintenance problems.

The permittee has removed the old conveyor belting from ditch D-16A (reports to pond 003A), redefined the ditch and reinstalled new riprap to aid in reducing erosion within that diversion.

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The second quarter impoundment inspections were conducted as follows: pond 004A was inspected by the permittee on April 25, 2001. Ponds 001A, 002A, 003A and 005A were inspected on May 30, 2001. There were no hazards or signs of instability noted for any of the ponds by Mr. Richey during the permittee's inspection cycle. No problems were noted relative to the site's impoundments during today's field inspection.

4C. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

The straw bale dikes which treat runoff from the Belina primary coal haul access road and its associated cut slopes have been discussed in numerous inspection reports and are high maintenance treatment measures. These treatments are generally located just prior to where the disturbed flows enter undisturbed drainages (and exit the permit area). The White Oak permit

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 08/06/2001

area has received several minor precipitation events over the last week and several of the treatment areas were noted as needing minor repairs. These are:

- 1) one of the three in series dikes at the ditch D-21 / Eccles Creek confluence was noted as having undercutting of one set of bales, and
- 2) the bale series located at the bottom of ditch D-25B had minor undercutting / bypassing in one set of bales.

The removal of sediment from behind one of the dams also appeared to be necessary.

It was suggested to Mr. Pappas that these treatment measures be examined after every event to ensure that untreated flows are not exiting the permit area (i.e., an "off site impact" and compliance action).

4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

Water monitoring requirements for the surface and ground water regimes for the second quarter of 2001 have been completed. Mr. Pappas indicated that compilation of the data is being pursued by Ms. Vicki Miller such that same can be uploaded to the Division's electronic database in Salt Lake City. .

The following ground water sites were monitored in June: S7-11, S24-12, S25-13, S31-13, S36-7, S36-17, S36-19, S36-23, SCOAL 1 and 5 were sampled, although all sample points in Coal Canyon were monitored. S36-19 was reported as being only damp; no sample was collected. S31-13 was reported as a seep.

The following surface water monitoring sites were monitored in May: VC-1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, and 12. Monitoring was also completed in Cox Canyon.

A review of the various analytical parameters for the samples being reported did not reveal any abnormalities, with the exception of the cation/anion balance being reported for the COAL sample taken on June 28, 2001. The analytical sheet for lab # 59-22890 reported a balance of -7.0 %. Mr. Pappas contacted CT&E labs in Huntington, Utah and requested a second analysis to confirm that data.

On August 13, 2001, Mr. Pappas faxed a new analysis sheet for the COAL sample taken on June 28, 2001. A cation/anion balance of 1.5 % was reported. The anion result reported was 3.2 meq/l; the cation result reported was 3.3 meq/l. This analysis now appears to be acceptable to meet Division reporting standards.

Discharge monitoring reports for the months of April, May, and June, 2001 were reviewed. UPDES point 004A is the only outfall which consistently discharges, with flow rates varying

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 08/06/2001

from six to eleven gallons per minute. TDS levels were reported ranging from 782 to 1544 mg/l during the three month period. There were no exceedances reported.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The second quarter 2001 spoil pile inspection for the site was conducted by Mr. Rich Richey on May 25, 2001. A minimum amount of material has been placed on the pile, along the access road to same. No new material has been placed where the pile has been regraded and reseeded. There were no signs of instability or other hazardous conditions reported. Mr. Richey's inspection report was certified by Mr. Dave Miller, P.E., on June 1, 2001.

18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

Today's field inspection of the main mine substation revealed that musk thistle continues to thrive within the White Oak permit area. Based on discussion with Ms. Susan White of the Salt Lake office, the permittee needs to cut and bag all flowers of this plant and then spray or dig up the plants. The spraying of this plant has been ongoing for many years. Same continues to thrive in spite of the permittee's efforts to extinguish the species.

21. BONDING AND INSURANCE

The permittee's general liability expires August 31, 2001.

A bond amount of \$4,292,000 is currently in place to reclaim the site, should that be necessary.

Inspector's Signature: _____


Peter Hess #46

Date: August 15, 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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