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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial XXX Complete Exploration
Inspection Date: 03/05/2002 / Time: 1:20p.m.-4:00p.m.
Date of Last Inspection: 02/11/2002

Mine Name: Whiskey Creek Mine 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
Company Official(s): Mr. Dave Miller, P.E., Business Manager
State Official(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Sunny, Clear, Cold
Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface XXX Prep Plant Other
Existing Acreage: Permitted 3906 Disturbed 140.2 Regraded Seeded
Status: Active

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

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.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 (4 th Quarter- April, May, June)	<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"/>

INSPECTION REPORT
(Continuation Sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 03/05/2002

(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

Note: The first blast to remove overburden at the Whiskey Creek site was made on February 28, 2002. As of today's inspection, the permittee has not initiated removal of the fractured burden.

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The Dugout pond was constructed during the latter months of 2001 to act as sediment control during the timbering operation and topsoil removal initiatory to the overburden removal process. A review of the inspection report as completed by Mr. Miller immediately following the construction of the pond was made on March 5, 2002. The dugout pond is of incised construction; the exposed inside slopes were noted as being stable. The pond is 45 feet wide at the bottom and 100 feet long. The impounding embankment of the pond is 8.5 to ten feet in width. The inspection report was certified by Mr. Miller on December 8, 2001.

5. EXPLOSIVES

The permittee drilled an area of the lower O'Connor seam just north of the old #13 portal location (upper Mine) in order to load it, and fracture the coals using explosives. One hundred and thirty-two four-inch diameter holes were drilled to a depth of fourteen feet. A fourteen-foot square hole pattern was utilized. Coal breakage is in the experimental stages at this time, as the permittee merely wants to heave the product and not pulverize it. Mr. Kimball Rasmussen, of Nielsen Construction, is the Utah certified coal mine surface blaster in charge of the activities. Approximately 5.2 pounds of pre-sensitized bagged ammonium nitrate prills were used as the blasting agent per hole. The shot was made at approximately 3:37 PM on March 7, 2002. Due to the extremely low powder factor, very little breakage was achieved.

Based on the recommendation of Mr. Rasmussen, the permittee intends to redrill the area and load approximately 25 pounds of explosive per hole. It is not known if the permittee intends to reduce the hole spacing to increase the powder factor. Calculations have been made utilizing the basic formulas obtained from the coal mine surface blaster training course via Bradley Safety Consultants, Inc. Using seven feet of stemming per hole, and a prill density of 0.85 (standard density for calculations), this individual used a 4.63 pounds of explosive per foot of borehole to determine a maximum charge weight of 32.4 pounds.

Inspector's Signature: 
Peter H. Hess #46

Date: March 11, 2002

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

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

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