

0016



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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*Phil  
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## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial XXX Complete      Exploration       
Inspection Date: 09/03/2002 / Time: 9-11 AM  
Date of Last Inspection: 08/06/2002

Mine Name: White Oak Complex/Whiskey Creek 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): Messrs. Dave Miller and Kit Pappas  
State Official(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Cool, partly cloudy / upper 60's Fahrenheit  
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

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

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation Sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/007/001

DATE OF INSPECTION: 09/03/2002

(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

Note: Coal is being loaded from the upper O'Connor seam from the first pit on the east side of Whiskey Creek.

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

A mitigation plan for surface impact #23 (Boarding House Canyon sinkhole) has been reviewed by this individual with input from the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The Forest Service provided the seed mix, as well as the documentation necessary for an archeological clearance for the area. A goshawk survey is to be conducted in the Boarding House Canyon area by the Forest Service. A conditional recommendation for approval was made to Division management, such that, upon completion of the goshawk survey, work could be initiated. Mr. Miller indicated that funding is in place to accomplish this work upon receipt of final approval by the Division and the surface management agency.

The status of permit condition #6, which is relative to issues regarding post-mining land use in Section 30, Township 13 South Range 6 East, was discussed with Mr. Miller. The permittee produced a copy of a letter dated August 8, 2002 (the Division has received a copy of same) and addressed to heirs of Milton Oman, Ltd. requesting that issues which have existed for some time be addressed. The permittee has also forwarded a letter to the attorney representing the heirs of Milton Oman, Ltd. requesting information on these same issues.

The Division has required that the permittee attempt to resolve these land use issues prior to December 2002. It is felt that the permittee is doing what can be done in an attempt to resolve these issues.

As a final note, the heirs of Milton Oman, Ltd. visited the Whiskey Creek Mine site in June. The permittee has not received any response from the heirs, either pro or con.

**3. TOPSOIL**

Mr. Miller indicated that Mr. Dan Larsen has completed the topsoil removal evaluation at the Mine site. No report has been received as yet from the EIS contractor.

**4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS**

Water levels in the site's sediment ponds are well below discharge elevation. The pond bottom in the mine site pond, 004A is visible from the Belina haul road. There were no hazardous conditions noted with ponds 001A, 002A, or pond 004A. Pond 003A was not inspected this day.

**4C. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES**

The catch basins that lie adjacent to the pond 004A access road are in need of cleaning. The basins are dry at this time, and the cleaning of same would be more efficient if done before any future precipitation events occur.

The straw bale dikes which are in place along the Belina haul road appear to be capable of functioning as designed. Some of the dikes should have buildup removed from the upstream side, in anticipation of the next event.

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation Sheet)

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**4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING**

The permittee has initiated the third quarter 2002 water monitoring requirements for the site. Mr. Pappas indicated that the probe of the pH meter that is used in taking field measurements has malfunctioned. The meter from the McClane Mine in Colorado is in transit such that the third quarter monitoring for the site can continue.

**5. EXPLOSIVES**

An ammonium nitrate prill bin (silo) has been set up on the lower pad where coal trucks were loaded when the underground mine was in operation. A borehole loading truck owned by Dyno-Nobel Inc. was observed parked by the storage silo.

**9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES**

The permittee has snipped and bagged the seed heads from numerous Musk Thistle plants that exist along the pond 004A (mine site sediment pond) access road.

**12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING**

Two rock trucks were observed hauling burden from the coal pit adjacent to the Whiskey Creek drainage in the lower O'Connor seam. The material is being placed in the pit adjacent to that which is being uncovered.

**20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT**

Water sprays were observed operating on the paved portion of the truck-unloading loop at the Valcam loadout.

A water truck was observed leaving the mine site, where a fresh application could be observed on the pit roads. The truck being used is a rental unit with an approximate capacity of 2,000 gallons.

Inspector's Signature:   
Peter Hess #46

Date: September 6, 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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