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United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
BROOKS TOWERS  
1020 15TH STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

File  
ACT/007/004  
Copy to Jeff  
sim

December 1, 1980

Mr. Ron Daniels  
Coordinator of Mined Land Development  
Department of Natural Resources  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Mr. Daniels:

Enclosed please find a copy(s) of on-site inspection report. The inspection was conducted within PRICE RIVER MINES during the period of October 28, 1980.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Ehmett, Acting Chief  
Division of Inspection & Enforcement

RECEIVED

DEC 04 1980

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

REGION V ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

PRICE RIVER COAL COMPANY  
PRICE RIVER MINES  
P.O. Box 629  
Helper, Utah 84526  
(801) 472-3411

RECEIVED  
DEC 01 1980  
DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

DATE: October 28, 1980  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
WEATHER: Sunny, clear, and cold  
COUNTY AND STATE: Carbon County, Utah  
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Gene Haub  
STATE OFFICIALS: Joe Helfrich, Sandy Pruitt, and Tom Portte  
OSM OFFICIAL: Eileen Doherty  
STATE PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004  
MSHA ID NUMBERS: 42-00165, 42-01517, 42-01202  
NOV NUMBER: 80-5-7-25, issued October 29, 1980

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERIM REGULATIONS

717.11 General Obligations

The Price River Coal Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the American Electric Power Service Company.

Permits, records, maps, plans, and authorizations were available upon request at the company office in Helper.

Price River Coal Company has applied to mine Federal leases in Crandall Canyon. Review is underway, and there has been no activity at the site, according to Mr. Haub.

717.12 Signs and Markers

The mine identification sign was posted as required.

717.14 Backfilling and Grading

An inactive access road and drill site in Hardscrabble Canyon had been backfilled, graded, and seeded since the last OSM inspection in February 1980.

717.15 Disposal of Excess Rock and Earth

Disposal of refuse in Schoolhouse Canyon from the Castlegate prep plant appears to be progressing. Piezometers are being installed as the fill levels advance. The disposal plan was available for review, but the MSHA letter of approval was not. However, an MSHA identification has been assigned to the refuse site by the agency.

PRICE RIVER MINES

717.17 Protection of the Hydrologic System

NPDES Permit number UT-0023086 covers discharges from 13 points. Three of these points will be at the Crandall Canyon site, and two other points have not yet been established. The associated ponds are not constructed.

Surface water monitoring takes place on the springs and creeks in the area of the mines. Some additional surface water monitoring points are needed in Sowbelly and Hardscrabble Canyons. These points should be located closer to the affected areas to provide for better comparisons. Quarterly monitoring is done on a few groundwater holes. In August 1980, Price River proposed a more extensive quarterly groundwater monitoring plan to the Denver OSM office.

The Upper Schoolhouse Canyon drainage is diverted to Barn Canyon at Castle-gate. A pond will be installed at the number 1 portal in the spring of 1981. During the interim, the operator is aware of his responsibilities to control runoff from the small area. Mr. Haub plans to install new straw bale filters and to maintain the roadside ditch.

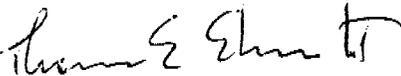
NOV #80-5-7-25 was issued for failure to construct and/or maintain diversion ditches. Stored equipment, coal fines, and trash have infringed upon the overland flow diversion ditches and culverts at both Sowbelly and Hardscrabble Canyons. Part of the ditch above the loadout has failed. An overall maintenance program, which must include channel linings or other applicable measures to minimize effects to undisturbed flows, is needed to fix these problems.

717.20 Topsoil Handling and Revegetation

Revegetation efforts are planned for the fall of 1980. Any established structures such as berms, ditches, ditch outfall points, and road banks are eligible for stabilization with revegetation and/or riprap.

SUMMARY

State NOV #80-1-11-1 was issued October 29, 1980 for failure to divert overland flow in Sowbelly Gulch. OSM NOV #80-5-7-25 was issued October 29, 1980 for failure to divert overland flow in Hardscrabble Canyon.



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EILEEN M. DOHERTY  
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST