

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/004

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: December 4, 1981

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in: C/007, 004, Internal

- Refer to:
- Confidential
 - Shelf
 - Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

December 4, 1981

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Crandall Canyon Mine
Price River Coal Co.
ACT/007/004
Carbon County, Utah

Inspectors Dave Lof and Sandy Pruitt toured the Crandall Canyon mine operator with Rob Wiley on November 23, 1981, to determine what impacts resulted from the emergency discharge of water from the shafts directly into Crandall Creek.

Shaft construction to the depth of approximately 140 feet into fractured alluvial-colluvial material encountered a large quantity of turbid ground water (approximately 25,000 ppm TSS) which was pumped from the shafts into the sediment pond at an initial rate of 125 gpm, later averaging 70 gpm. Sediment filled the first pond in the series beyond capacity. On November 13, 1981, Rob Wiley informed Jack Feight of plans to clean out the sediment pond which would necessitate discharge of the ground water directly into the Crandall Creek diversion channel. Seven straw dikes had been constructed in the diversion to retain most of the sediment. These had evidently functioned as necessary but traces of deposition were evident downstream. Mine water had been redirected to the pond at the time of the inspection. The pond was discharging through leaks in the decant pipe. Mr. Wiley was not aware and Mr. Feight did not inform him that State Health, Bureau of Water Pollution Control and the EPA had to be notified of the new discharge and a sample of the discharge was not taken to determine if it met effluent limitations of NPDES permit #0023086. Inspectors requested that Mr. Wiley notify both agencies of the occurrence and that a sample of water discharged into the ponds be acquired for comparison with a sample of the pond discharge. PRC planned to have the shaft constructed past the fractured zone within a week.

Waste material removed from the pond was to be used as fill for pad construction. Material had also been deposited in the proposed warehouse location above the operation. An NAOC requiring immediate implementation of sediment control and removal of the material within 30 days (December 23, 1981) was agreed upon.

Runoff control maintenance in the general area was lacking. NOV 81-2-14-1 was issued for failure to maintain sediment control measures. The cementation contractor was evidently negligent in expeditious berm reconstruction concurrent with development of the fill. Construction of a taller berm was recommended to minimize the continual maintenance problem. The berm along the undisturbed drainage diversion adjacent to the diesel and oil storage tanks

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did not adequately retain spillage. Oil in the diversion channel will contaminate any undisturbed area runoff water. A seven-day abatement period (until December 1, 1981) was agreed upon for reconstruction of the berms. Continued maintenance of the berms is required for termination of the violation.

The highwall adjacent to the oil storage tanks and above the diversion ditch mentioned above has been stabilized with chain link fence. PRC plans to construct a retaining wall here. It was requested that portions of the overland flow diversions not currently affected by fill construction be riprapped or otherwise lined to meet the requirements of UMC 817.43(c)(f) and 817.45.

Rob Wiley was informed of this Division's requirements for perimeter markers delineating the permitted disturbed area. He was requested that PRC initiate the posting of durable and easily detected perimeter markers within 30 days of this inspection (December 23, 1981).

The proposed leach field location approximately 1 1/2 miles above the mine operation was approved by the Health Department on October 29, 1981. Plans have been prepared for DOGM review and proposed construction this spring.

The PRC mine complex has been classified as a small generator of hazardous waste (generating more than 1,000 kg used oil and solvents). Plans for handling the waste have recently been developed for review.

SANDY FRUITT 
RECLAMATION OFFICER

cc: Tom Emmett, OSM
Rob Wiley, PRC
Inspection Staff

SP/btb

Statistics:

Vehicle: #EX 70237--458 miles

Per Diem: 3 persons X 1 day, 12 hours @ \$37.50/day = \$161.34

Grant: A & E