

0010

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/004

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A.

Date Sent: AUGUST 6, 1981

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
C/007/004 Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

August 6, 1981

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Price River Coal Co.
Braztah Complex
ACT/007/004
Carbon County, Utah

DATE: July 30, 1981
TIME: 9:30 a.m.
WEATHER: Warm and Clear
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Rob Wiley
STATE OFFICIALS: Sandy Pruitt, Rex Fidler
ENFORCEMENT ACTION: None

Compliance With Permanent Performance Standards

771 et seq Permits

Applicable state permit: ACT/007/004.
NPDES Permit #UT-0023086.
Mine approval--August 26, 1977.

File in:

- Confidential
 Shelf
 Expandable

Refer to Record No. 0010 Date 8-6-81
In C/ 007, 004, Internal
For additional information

817.11 Signs and Markers

At all points of access to the operation, signs had been posted with complete information. Perimeter markers had been posted throughout the mine operations.

817.21-.25 Topsoil

Topsoil has been stockpiled at various locations. There was evidence of settling cracks on the stockpile in Crandall Canyon. Mulching had occurred on this stockpile, however, growth from reseeding was minimal. There was growth of native plants on the stockpile. Growth from seeding should occur in the fall. There was no evidence of erosion on the topsoil stockpile. The stockpile had been protected from water erosion.

817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

Castlegate

In Barn Canyon, the material storage site within the permit area lacked control and treatment of runoff. Just east of the water treatment plant, berms were broken. Along the east side of main access road where the road crosses the bridge, energy dissipators were lacking at discharge points where road runoff intersects ephemeral stream before entering southern sediment pondt. Along west side of main access road, surface drainage from the disturbed was not maintained causing a ponding and build up of a white, sticky substance.

Hardscrabble

The inlet to the upper sediment pond, below the refuse pile and material storage site (Goose Island) requires protection against erosion. At Braztah #4 portal, the ephemeral stream diversion required maintenance to prevent additional contribution of suspended solids to streamflow and runoff outside the permit area. It also lacked design and maintenance to prevent land slides in the area above the loadout. At the discharge point where the diversion intersected the natural stream energy dissipators were lacking, causing exit velocity of the diversion ditch flow to be greater than the receiving stream. The parking area berm along the Class II access road to the mine is broken down because of parked vehicles increasing suspended solids to streamflow and runoff outside the permit area. Storage of materials, east of the permit area along the south side of the road was also present. Because the area was outside the permit area, all controls required in the permit area were lacking.

Sowbelly Gulch

The Class III road to the water tank had erosion on it. Mr. Wiley suggested installing a culvert under the road or a ditch across it (in an August 6 phone call). Necessity of plans and specifications submitted to the Division for the Division's approval prior to installation was discussed. The Class III access road to #5 portal fan also had erosion and lacked proper drainage controls.

Crandall Canyon.

A berm just southeast of the oil, fuel and water storage tanks was broken down. A berm around the oil, fuel and water storage tanks is required under Spillage Containment Contingency Plan (SPCC) by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Surface and Ground Water Monitoring

NPDES permit #UT-0023086 covers 13 discharge points as included on a map submitted on August 15, 1980. Oil and grease above Price River was 1.40 ppm on April 7, 1981. Below Price River oil and grease was 17.40 ppm on April 7, 1981. This occurred also in April of 1980. It appears that oil and grease may have been contributed by railroad tracks west of the complex. Utah Power & Light plant may also have contributed to this problem.

817.45-.46 Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Control Measures, Sediment Ponds

In Willow Creek Canyon, two temporary sediment ponds were being constructed prior to development. These ponds will catch drainage from the disturbed area. Berms, drainage channels and a culvert were being installed for control of runoff from undisturbed areas.

817.57 Stream Buffer Zone

Stream buffer zone signs were in place at Castlegate.

817.71-.83 Disposal of Underground Development Waste and Coal Processing Waste

Waste is currently stored in Schoolhouse Canyon. Placement of rockfill for sub-drainage system as waste disposal area increases was discussed.

817.97 Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Values

A foot and vehicle survey of power lines and contacting the Division of Wildlife Resources for information as to likely raptor usage of hazardous poles has occurred. In the future, the following should occur:

1. Map showing locations, voltage and ownerships of all power lines on the mine permit area.
2. Map indicating location of all raptor hazard poles which Price River controls.
3. Cost estimate for replacement or modification of hazardous poles.

This replacement or modification will be implemented only if absolutely required (refer to Price River memo to DOGM dated July 1, 1981).

817.121-.126 Subsidence Control

Subsidence is being monitored throughout the area in the spring and fall. Information is sent to the Bureau of Mines in Denver, Colorado. In the fall of 1980, evidence of two feet of subsidence or less has occurred in Bear Canyon. This is an area above the old Royal Mine which was in operation in the early 1900's. Price River Coal is presently mining a seam of coal 750 feet below this previous mining operation.

817.150-.176 Roads

All roads in the mine area were adequately maintained except for the Class III roads in Sowbelly Canyon which were mentioned under Hydrologic Balance.

Comments

On August 6, 1981, Mr. Robert Wiley of Price River Coal Company called. He stated that the following things would be done (refer to August 5, 1981, letter to Price River Coal Company).

Castlegate Preparation Plant

All items listed in the letter would be addressed.

Hardscrabble Canyon

Item #1 and 2--was underway.

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Item #4--placing railroad ties in area to prevent breaking down of berm.

Item #5--removal of feeder breakers was underway.

Sowbelly Canyon

Item #1--he stated that they may install a ditch with rock berm.

Item #2--was underway.

Crandall Canyon

Berm around storage tanks was completed Friday.

Rex Fidler
REX FIDLER
RECLAMATION OFFICER

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM
Rob Wiley, Price River
Inspection Staff

SP/RF/btm

Statistics:

See U. S. Fuel Company memo dated July 29, 1981.