

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/004

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A.

Date Sent: December 8, 1982.

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
CI 007 , 004 , Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

December 8, 1982

Inspection Memo
to Coal File

#7

RE: Price River Coal Company
Price River Complex
ACT/007/004
Carbon County, Utah

Division Inspector David Lof conducted a partial inspection at the above mentioned operation on November 9 and 10, 1982. The purpose of the inspection was to follow up on enforcement action taken during the October complete inspection, specifically NOV 82-4-12-2 and NAOC 82-4-9-3 and other concerns discussed with the operator during that inspection. Mr Lof was accompanied on the inspection by Rob Wiley of Price River Coal Company (PRCC).

Hardscrabble Canyon

The number three mine in Hardscrabble Canyon is closed down at this time with the exception of maintenance crews. The number four mine is still operating and loading trucks out to Castlegate.

During the October complete inspection NOV N82-4-12-2, 1 of 2, was issued concerning areas in Hardscrabble Canyon. The violation was issued for failure to pass all surface drainage from the disturbed area through a sedimentation pond or another treatment facility before leaving the permit area. Area one of the violation referred to a berm adjacent to the primary undisturbed stream channel just south of the maintenance office trailer. This berm had been repaired, however, the inspector noticed some ponding adjacent to the berm which could lead to a recurrence of the problem. The inspector and the operator discussed briefly the use of a swale to convey water away from this small pad area. The operator agreed to have the necessary work completed in 45 days (December 25, 1982). The second portion of the NOV applied to the western half of the pad area associated with the #4 mine. In order to remedy the problem, the operator had reworked the disturbed area runoff diversion, routing most of the water from above the belt crossing down along the road. The water below the belt crossing continues down through the original disturbed area runoff diversion alongside the belt. Some minor work still needs to be done on the diversion by the belt crossing and near the diversion's east end. The operator agreed to have this work completed in 45 days. NOV N82-4-12-2, #1 of 2, was subsequently terminated by the inspector on November 10, 1982. The effective date of the termination was October 14, 1982.

NAOC 82-4-9-3, #2 of 3, which required maintenance of the primary undisturbed stream channel at the south end of the culvert under the road to the #4 mine area had been completed. NAOC 82-4-9-3, #1 of 3, was issued regarding some maintenance needed on the berm west of the warehouse building adjacent to the undisturbed stream channel. The abatement deadline was November 8, 1982. The operator had not yet addressed this area, however, the inspector did not feel that it warranted an NOV at this time and the operator agreed to having the work completed within 45 days.

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- Confidential
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Refer to Record No. 0004 Date 12-8-82

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The operator had replaced and maintained some of the old straw bales along the perimeter of the Dog Flat storage area. The fifty gallon barrels located along the road to Dog Flat had not yet been removed and placed in an appropriate storage location. Mr. Wiley agreed to have the barrels taken care of within a week.

The small stilling basins which were installed by the operator to treat runoff from the spring snow melt at the extreme southern end of the permit area had not yet been maintained. The operator agreed to have these basins cleaned out within 45 days.

Sowbelly Canyon

The berm separating the undisturbed drainage from the disturbed area on the west side of warehouse #5 had not been addressed. The berm required a small amount of maintenance work which Mr. Wiley agreed to have completed within 45 days. Some snow removal operations have taken place. Mr. Wiley was reminded to inform the snow removal equipment operators to be careful not to place snow from a disturbed area in undisturbed channels, and to try and keep snow from constricting disturbed area runoff diversions.

Utah Fuel #1

On October 7, 1982, PRCC received an approval to install a temporary diversion ditch above the Utah Fuel #1 disturbed area in order to bypass undisturbed drainage from the water shed above. At the time of the inspection, Mr. Wiley informed me that PRCC had received approval from its parent company AEP, on a contract for the construction of the above mentioned diversion and that the work would probably be completed prior to the next inspection.

Gravel Canyon

At the time of the inspection, the eastern slope of the subsoil stockpile was being regraded to a 3 to 1 slope by a large bulldozer.

Crandall Canyon

At the time of the inspection, approximately six to eight inches of snow were on the ground at the shaft site. Cementation is currently in the process of dismantling the #1 Shaft and should be completed with the development of the #2 Shaft by January 1983.

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During the October complete inspection the operator was issued NOV 82-4-12-2, #2 of 2, for failure to maintain diversion. Portion one of the violation was in reference to the diversion ditch north of the #1 shaft which conveys muck water from the #1 shaft to the lower sediment pond. The #1 shaft has been completed, therefore no more water is being mucked from shaft thereby partially eliminating the problem. A problem still exists in that some disturbed area runoff from the rest of the shaft area also contributes to this diversion therefore the diversion still needs to be maintained. This work should be completed by no later than 8:00 a.m., November 15, 1982, in accordance with the time for abatement of the violation. The second portion of the violation applied to the undisturbed diversion ditch southeast of the hoist house from the #1 shaft. The berm had not been repaired yet and again the operator was reminded of the November 15, 1982 abatement deadline.

The operator informed the inspector that the leach field was not going to be constructed this season due to the winter weather conditions. However, he said that another culvert had been installed along the access road to the leach field and that the other drainage controls had been implemented along the road.

Much of the hilfiker wall associated with the development of the upper area for the shop/warehouse facilities has been completed. The 48 inch cross culvert has been installed; it still needs a headwall. The uppermost multi-plate stream crossing has been completely installed including headwalls. Also, the upper and lower most portions of the stream channel diversion in this area have been rip-rapped.

The operator's contractor for the hoist house has excavated the foundations for the fan and hoist house frames near the #1 shaft site. The excavated materials have been temporarily stockpiled on the access road below the shaft site. A berm had been placed along one side of the stockpiles as a temporary sediment control measure. The inspector suggested that some straw bales be placed along the downhill side of the stockpiles to better establish temporary sediment control. The operator was asked to have this implemented by November 15, 1982. The inspector also noted during the inspection that some materials had been placed in the undisturbed drainage diversion which had been the subject of NOV N82-4-9-1. Due to the nature of the materials, the operator was given a verbal warning and was asked to have the materials out of the diversion no later than November 15, 1982.

The operator has revegetated a large percentage of the flat areas along the access road to Crandall Canyon. Approximately four acres have been reseeded and straw crimped into the soil. The inspector discussed with the operator the possibility of flagging off or marking the areas in some manner so as to try to minimize the amount of disturbance to these areas.

Castlegate Preparation Plant

During the October complete inspection, several areas of concern were discussed with the operator having to do with sediment control and sediment control structures. One of the areas discussed was where the road to the new stacking tube passes over the Barn Canyon undisturbed drainage. At the time of the October inspection the berm on the east side of the road, which is supposed to protect the Barn Canyon undisturbed drainage from disturbed area runoff, had apparently sustained some damage from recent heavy rainstorms. A significant amount of ponding had occurred at this apparent low point which more than likely led to the damage to the berm. Because of this, inspectors issued NAOC 82-4-9-3, #3 of 3. The nature of the concern was the design, construction and maintenance of sediment control structures to ensure that structures are adequate to prevent additional contributions of suspended sediments to runoff outside the permit area. The area to which the notice applied was the area west of the water treatment plant, and north of the clean coal stockpile and sediment pond 011. The NAOC required that plans be submitted addressing these areas, which may be inadequately designed and constructed, to ensure proper conveyance and treatment of disturbed area runoff. These plans were to be implemented immediately upon Division approval and the time for abatement was no later than October 27, 1982. At the time of this inspection, plans had not been received by the Division concerning this NAOC. And, the inspector noted that a significant amount of ponding was once again occurring in the exact same location. The runoff causing the ponding was not the result of a large precipitation event.

The second area of concern discussed with the operator during the October complete inspection was an access road leaving the disturbed area and entering the railroad right-of-way just north of the railroad loadout. At the time of the October inspection, inspectors felt that this area posed a potential situation where disturbed area runoff could leave the site untreated. The operator was asked to have this area addressed. On November 9, 1982, disturbed area runoff was in fact leaving the permit via this access road to the railroad. In fact, it appeared that since the October inspection, that someone had used a shovel to provide the runoff a small diversion under the railroad tracks. The operator was asked to have this area fixed immediately. The operator had placed a berm across the access to the railroad by the morning of November 10, 1982.

A third area previously discussed with the operator was sediment pond 012. This pond was designed and constructed to handle disturbed area runoff from approximately 19 acres. In order to contain the runoff from a 10 year, 24 hour event a capacity of approximately 46,000 cubic feet is needed. Inspectors found that due to improper placement of the pond, an additional 101 acres of undisturbed area is contributing to the pond. Because of this,

if the operator was to receive a 10 year, 24 hour event, the pond would be deficient approximately 51,000 cubic feet of capacity. In addition to this problem, the operator has just recently started to pump mine water from the #3 mine into the pond in order to keep the mine from flooding. In doing this, an additional strain was placed on the pond. Because of the three areas mentioned above, NOV N82-4-14-1 was issued as follows:

Nature of the Violation

Failure to design, construct, and maintain sediment control structures to ensure that structures are adequate to prevent additional contributions of suspended solids to runoff outside the permit area.

Provision of the Regulations or Act Violated

UCA 40-10-18(2)(i)(ii)
UMC 817.41 (a)(d)
UMC 817.42 (a)(1)
UMC 817.43 (c)
UMC 817.45

Portion of the Operation to Which Notice Applies

A. Sedimentation pond located across from the guard shack (sediment pond 011)

(B) Area to the west and north of the clean coal stockpile.

Remedial Action Required

Submit plans which adequately address the design, construction and maintenance of the sediment control structures and ensure proper conveyance and treatment of all disturbed area runoff. Plans shall be implemented immediately upon Division approval.

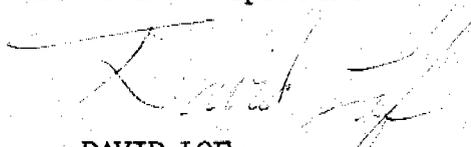
Time for Abatement

Plans due no later than December 15, 1982. Implementation shall be completed no later than April 30, 1983.

The berm which was to be constructed, separating the disturbed area from the railroad tracks, north of the railroad loadout and adjacent to the new conveyer belt which is being constructed from the new clean coal stockpile to the railroad loadout, had not been completed.

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The berm northeast of the truck loadout which is suppose to separate the disturbed area from the undisturbed drainage below the coal refuse sediment pond, was being maintained at the time of the inspection.



DAVID LOF
RECLAMATION OFFICER

DL/tck

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM
Rob Wiley, Price River Coal Company

Statistics:

See Deer Creek Mine memo dated, December 5, 1982