

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/004

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A.

Date Sent: APRIL 14, 1983

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
C/ 007 . 004 . Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

April 14, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Price River Coal Company
(PRCC)
Price River Complex
ACT/007/004
Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

DATE: February 17, 1983
TIME: 10:00 A.M. - 3:50 P.M.
WEATHER: Mostly sunny and cool
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Rob Wiley
STATE OFFICIAL: Dave Lof

Compliance with Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

The operator had on file the following permit approvals:

1. A letter dated April 27, 1977 from the Division granting interim approval.
2. A letter dated April 27, 1977 from the USGS granting approval of the operator's 211 Plan .
3. A letter dated April 19, 1982 from the Division granting final approval of the operator's Crandall Canyon modification .
4. A letter dated June 7, 1982 from the Division granting approval for storage of topsoil and subsoil from Crandall Canyon in Gravel Canyon .
5. A letter dated November 17, 1982 granting conditional approval for a truck turnaround, scale house at Castlegate . Final approval for this modification was granted in a letter from the Division dated January 18, 1983. Mr. Wiley did not have a copy of this letter on-site at the time of the inspection I informed him that he should contact Tom Tetting of the Division so that he could have a copy of the letter on-site.
6. A letter from the Division dated December 28, 1982 granting approval for the new mine water discharge outfall at the Castlegate facilities .

File in:

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 Shelf
 Expandable

Refer to Record No. 0011 Date 4-14-83
In C/ 007, 004, Internal
For additional information _____

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

Complete mine identification signs were posted at the entrances to Castlegate, Sowbelly, Hardscrabble and Crandall Canyon. During future inspections Gravel Canyon, Utah Fuel #1 and the fan across from Willow Creek should be checked for mine identification signs.

Perimeter markers at Sowbelly Canyon, Hardscrabble Canyon and Castlegate Preparation Plant consisted primarily of blue flagging attached to vegetation at various points around the perimeters. The operator has started to install roof bolts which have been painted red in Hardscrabble Canyon to replace the blue flagging. Perimeter markers at Crandall Canyon are wooden lath with survey flagging. Willow Creek's perimeter markers are painted roof bolts.

UMC 817.21 - .25 Topsoil

The topsoil and subsoil piles at the Gravel Canyon storage site were snow covered at the time of the inspection. The operator was not able to seed the entire soil stockpile during the fall of 1982 because of snow. Seeding of this area should be completed this spring immediately after snow melt to insure proper soil moisture conditions. The operator should also construct the chain link fence and gate to limit access to the area as he committed to in his plans which were submitted to the Division on May 17, 1982.

UMC 817.41 - .52 Hydrologic Balance

Sowbelly Canyon

There was no snow removal waste in the undisturbed diversion on the west side of the site immediately south of the warehouse for the #5 Mine, as there had been in December when NOV N82-4-17-2, #2 of 2 was issued for failure to pass all surface drainage from the disturbed area through a sediment pond prior to leaving the permit area.

The operator was asked to maintain the water bar across the mine access road near the guardhouse in order to insure that disturbed area runoff would not leave the permit area prior to passing through sediment control structures. He was given one week in order to have this work done.

Hardscrabble Canyon

The operator had cleaned out the small sediment basins located along the mine access road below the #3 Mine. At the time of the inspection the operator was just beginning to maintain the inlets to all of the sediment ponds in order to insure that runoff would be conveyed to its designated sediment pond. This work was supposed to be completed within the week.

The operator was in the process of installing a coal scalper along the #4 Mine conveyor so that they can separate out different sizes of coal for their

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE
ACT/007/004
April 14, 1983
Page 2

particular markets. The operator was reminded that it is necessary to maintain design sediment controls along the conveyor during this construction.

Crandall Canyon

There had been no recent activity on the upper portion of the development site where the shop/warehouse facilities are to be located. At the time of the inspection there was approximately 4 feet of snow on the ground at the site. On the lower portion of the development site, where the shafts are located, some maintenance work needed to be done on the drainage controls, particularly the berm between the lower and upper stream crossings and the diversion for the disturbed area runoff from the #1 Shaft area to the sediment pond. Mr. Wiley agreed to have these areas taken care of prior to the next monthly inspection.

The foundations for the dual fans at the #1 Shaft were nearly complete and the shaft itself was covered by a wooden platform. The #2 Shaft was completed except for pouring the final collar at the top of the shaft. Cementation had dismantled their headframe and was finishing removal of the materials from the site. According to Mr. Wiley this would be completed within a month. Once Cementation is off the site PRCC will start to regrade the lower site to meet final grade. Their plans are to finish installing the permanent overland flow diversion along the south side this summer.

Castlegate Preparation Plant

During the December 22, 1982 partial inspection the operator was issued NOV N82-4-17-2, #2 of 2 for failure to pass all surface drainage from the disturbed area through a sedimentation pond or treatment facility prior to leaving the permit area and failure to maintain sediment control structures. The portion of the operation to which the notice applied was the berm west of the new coal stacking tube and the undisturbed diversion north of the new coal stacking tube. Both of these areas have been properly addressed per the remedial actions required for abatement of the violation.

A large amount of water was ponding along the access road to the new coal stacking tube, from the south side of sediment pond 011 to the beginning of the temporary conveyor from the coal stacking tube. The operator had been pumping the water into the two small sumps southwest of the coal stacking tube in order to protect the Barn Canyon undisturbed drainage. He had also been trying to maintain the drainage from the area west of the stacking tube to the two sumps. The operator had a contractor scheduled to come on-site on February 24 or 25 to initiate construction work on ponds 011 and several other areas associated with the drainage control modifications for the Castlegate facilities associated with abatement of NOV N82-4-14-1. The operator was given approval from the Division via a phone conversation on February 24, 1983, followed up by an approval letter, for the construction of sediment pond 011, the culvert draining into Barn Canyon and the culvert underneath the truck dump access road.

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE
ACT/007/004
April 14, 1983
Page 4

During snow removal activities on the access road to the School House Canyon refuse dump the operator had pushed some snow removal waste from off the access road onto the downslope of a previously undisturbed hillside located above and to the east of the raw coal stacking tube and rotary breaker. The operator was asked to stop this practice and to pull the materials back up off the hillside. The operator agreed to stopping the practice and to clean any residual materials off the hillside in the spring once the snow has melted and the area dried off sufficiently.

The area between the sample building and Barn Canyon, under the clean coal conveyor, had been cleaned out and a better berm established along Barn Canyon.

UMC 817.52 Surface and Ground Water Monitoring

The operator is now in possession of a new NPDES permit, #UT-0023086 which expires on June 30, 1987. The receiving waters listed are Price River, Spring Canyon and Willow Creek. Point source 001 is the operator's water supply pond located at the Castlegate Preparation Plant facilities. Point source 002 is the New Peerless Mine mine water discharge. Point sources 003 - 019 are for the operator's sediment ponds. A November 26, 1982 letter from the EPA amends the operator's NPDES permit to include outfall 020 which is the discharge point for the mine water from the #3 Mine. This discharge point is located on the east side of U. S. Highway 6 across from Utah Fuel #1, down by the river.

NPDES water monitoring data was available through the 4th quarter of 1982. According to the report on October 8, 1982 the operator decanted the Crandall Canyon sediment pond (014). Water samples were taken at the beginning and the end of the decanting procedure which lasted approximately 6 hours at approximately 100 gpm. TSS for the beginning sample was 38.5 mg/l the TSS for the ending sample was 121 mg/l.

Surface water monitoring data was available through December 21, 1982.

UMC 817.81 - .93 Coal Processing Waste

Quarterly inspections of the operator's refuse disposal site are conducted by Muriel Jarret, an employee of PRCC who has attended MSHA's training school on inspection of coal processing waste banks. Copies of the inspection reports were not available at the time of my inspection. Mr. Wiley was informed that inspection and monitoring reports should be available for inspection at all times in accordance with UMC 817.82 (a)(4). He was asked to have these reports on-site by the next monthly inspection.

Piezometers are installed in the refuse bank, two on the first level and three on the second level. Each piezometer varies in depth within the refuse pile profile. The piezometers are monitored weekly and data was available from October 21, 1980 through the fall of 1982. The data indicated that there had been a large amount of water movement through the bank last spring associated with the snowmelt.

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE
ACT/007/004
April 14, 1983
Page 5

UMC 817.97 Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Values

A letter dated October 9, 1981 from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicated that a survey of the power poles at PRCC had been completed in August of 1981. The Fish and Wildlife Service did not at that time recommend any of the power poles for modification in order to protect raptors from electrocution.

UMC 817.100 Contemporaneous Reclamation

The operator informed me that he was planning on reclaiming the Goose Island and Magazine Canyon areas of Hardscrabble Canyon this summer. He also informed me that he doubted that the #3 Mine portal facilities would ever be used again for anything other than ventilation purposes.

UMC 817.111 - .117 Revegetation

The operator is planning on completing seeding of several areas this spring which were not completed last fall. The following is a partial list of those areas slated for seeding.

1. Crandall Canyon Access Road.
2. The new sediment pond at Castlegate and the associated truck turnaround
3. Completion of seeding at Gravel Canyon.

DL for

DAVID LOF
FIELD SPECIALIST

DL/lm

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Bart Kale, DOGM
Rob Wiley, PRCC

Statistics:

See Wilberg mine memo dated March 25, 1983.