

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/004

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A.

Date Sent: June 15, 1984

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

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cc:

File in: C/007, 004, Internal

- Refer to:
- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date \_\_\_\_\_ For additional information

June 15, 1984

Inspection Memo  
to Coal File:

RE: Price River Coal Complex  
Price River Coal Company  
ACT/007/004, Folder #7  
Carbon County, Utah

DATE: May 17, 1984  
TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
WEATHER: Fair  
COMPANY OFFICIALS: Rob Wiley  
STATE OFFICIALS: Sandy Pruitt  
ENFORCEMENT ACTION: Termination of NOV # N84-2-5-1, NOV #'s 2 & 7  
of group #N84-2-2-7

Compliance With Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

PRCC has not received any approvals for mine plan modifications or new permit revisions during the last quarter pending OSM review and approval of the permanent program Mining and Reclamation Permit Application.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

All mine identification signs, perimeter markers, buffer zone and topsoil markers inspected were adequate.

UMC 817.21-.25 Topsoil

The topsoil stockpiles in Crandall Canyon and Gravel Canyon are well protected. The success of seed germination on the Gravel Canyon topsoil stockpile is improving and there is already dense vegetation on the Crandall Canyon stockpiles.

Improper installation of the perforated drain pipes in the leachfield up Crandall Canyon was discovered in the late fall of 1983 after topsoil had been redistributed. Lowdermilk is responsible for correctly replacing the drain pipes and had already removed the topsoil and stockpiled it in a windrow along the perimeter of the leachfield with a ditch surrounding the stockpile and with strawbales placed at its discharge point.

File in:  
 Confidential  
 Shelf  
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Refer to Record No. 0008 Date 6-15-84  
In C/ 007, 004, Internal  
For additional information \_\_\_\_\_

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### UMC 817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

#### Sowbelly Canyon #5 Mine

Runoff control structures in Sowbelly Canyon had been maintained recently and were in very good condition. PRCC constructed a catch basin at the low spot across from the upper substation (subject to NOV #N83-2-15-1) and installed a 160 foot PVC drainage pipe with a riprapped head wall that drains the catch basin towards Sediment Pond 004. This will alleviate ponding at the base of the berm and the potential for berm breaches from intentional drainage of the pond or saturation of the berm.

#### Hardscrabble Canyon #3 and #4 Mines

Maintenance of all runoff control structures in Hardscrabble Canyon was also recent. The strawbales below the #3 mine pad and parking lot were in excellent condition. The undisturbed drainage ditch on the south side of the #4 mine yard was being cleared of winter sloughage material.

In response to the last inspection April 16, 1984, PRCC removed the saturated soil by the diesel shed for disposal at Goose Island. The area was then covered with new soil material removed in maintenance of ditches. Six inch plus riprap was placed around the northwest corner of the diesel shed to divert drainage away from the diesel gas tank. The profile of the diversion was reestablished with appropriate grade for unobstructed flow.

#### Willow Creek Facility

Recent improvements in the Willow Creek facilities yard were noted during this inspection. PRCC had regraded the surface adjacent to the sediment ponds and the water bar inlets to the ponds were improved. New strawbales were placed in the drainage way toward the lowest pond for additional erosion and sediment control.

The culvert across Willow Creek was flowing at about one quarter capacity. The rock headwall is holding up well.

#### Castlegate Preparation Plant

Runoff control structures were in a very good state of recent repair here also. Savage Brothers had repaired the leaking water line that was draining into Sediment Pond 012 B. In the process

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they had breached the berm above the old Sediment Pond 012 to drain the pad area. Upon discovery Rob Wiley made arrangements to immediately repair the berm before completion of the Castlegate inspection.

The drainage ditch to Ponds 012A and B had been recently graded for the abatement of NOV #2 of 7, #N84-2-2-7 effectively April 13, 1984. Strawbales in the ditch and around the transfer station had been recently replaced.

PRCC removed the coal stockpile located near the water treatment plant which was a notable concern during the last inspection since it covered some disturbed area soil material located at the toe of the substation pad and closely encroached the Barn Canyon diversion. Sloughage into the undisturbed drainage diversion along the refuse access road had not been cleared out yet. It appeared that UP&L had cut an access into the slope for repair of a powerpole located along the road, so that runoff from approximately two acres of undisturbed area will flow toward Sediment Pond 012A.

The Barn Canyon drainage was flowing and ponding at the toe of the material storage pad that has blocked the diversion. In response to a DOGM letter dated April 4, 1984 requiring riprap along the toe of the pad, Rob Wiley pointed out that, by his calculations, 36 inch minus riprap would handle 15 cfs flow which is a conservative estimate of flow down the natural Barn Canyon drainage course. The rock in place is generally larger than 36 inch diameter, but unevenly distributed. PRCC contests the April 5, 1984 requirement on the basis of the extent of rock in place and the fact that the obstruction in the Barn Canyon diversion was a preexisting condition. Citing Cedar Coal vs. OSM, it is contended that, irregardless of whether PRCC will use the top of the pad or not, the toe of the pad is not their responsibility under the permanent performance standards.

#### Crandall Canyon

Crandall Canyon Creek was flowing very muddy, approximately 40 cfs. PRCC's contractor had recently regraded the surface of the warehouse pad so that the eastern half drains toward Sediment Pond 015. The other half drains toward the base of the propane storage pad and will apparently pond at a low spot along the road before draining along the road and maybe toward pond 015. A berm was constructed above Crandall Creek on the opposite side of the pad from this low spot. The contractor is still making repairs on the Hilfaker wall in this area.

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The fill over the pipe line for the drain field, which was installed during early winter, has settled four to six inches and needs to be regraded. Rob reported that he had observed a small trickle of clear water from the drain fill discharge pipe but it was not sampled.

Sediment Pond 015 was completed on Monday, May 14, 1984. Although not apparent visually, surveys indicated that the inslopes were constructed at 2.5:1 instead of the required 3:1. The contractor reportedly reestablished the appropriate grade by the time of this inspection. The outslope appeared to design, 2:1, which is much more stable than that observed and cited in #7 of 7, #N84-2-2-7. A berm was constructed above the section of Crandall Creek passing the sediment pond embankment and the discharge pipe was installed down to the Creek. NOV #7 of 7 was terminated effectively May 14, 1984 as a result of this inspection. PRCC should obtain certification of the completed structure in accordance with UMC 817.46 (r).

PRCC will let a contract soon for the required completion work on Crandall Canyon. Such items as grading cutslopes above the substation, installing concrete drop boxes, improving riprap placement along the road drainage discharge points, placing riprap along the toe of the Hilfaker Wall by Pond 015 and installation of drainage culverts for the undisturbed area drainage diversions by the ventilation building and in place of the swale below the water tank site.

As indicated above, PRCC had accomplished very good maintenance of all runoff control structures in the complex. This was an unusual inspection resulting in only minor concerns relative to runoff controls. PRCC is commended for their diligence and expected to continue the good work!

#### UMC 817.52 Hydrologic Balance: Surface and Groundwater Monitoring

Surface water monitoring data from the samples taken at stations B-1, B-2, B-3, B-5, B-6, B-19, B-20, and B-21 on March 7, 1984, in abatement to NOV #6 of 7, #N84-2-2-7, were examined at the mine office. In accordance with the currently approved water monitoring plan dated August 14, 1980, samples are to be taken from these stations, plus station B-17 (Sowbelly Creek above Spring Canyon Creek which I presume was dry), biweekly (every two weeks). Rob Wiley claimed that Allen Klein, OSM had approved the surface water monitoring program proposed in their May 3, 1984 submittal in

response to an OSM letter dated April 26, 1984, which requested a complete surface and groundwater hydrologic monitoring plan. So PRCC did not intend to sample again until June, 1984. No written verification of Allen Klein's approval was presented. Mr. Dave Maxwell, OSM Project Leader of the PRCC permit review, was contacted on June 15, 1984 to verify this claim. He told me that he was not aware of a separate approval of the May 3, 1984 proposed water monitoring program and assured me that no one except OSM in Washington, DC could grant the approval. The surface water monitoring program described in the May 24, 1984 TEA sent to Washington, DC on May 18, 1984 contains an acceptable program similar to that described in PRCC's May 3, 1984 proposal except OSM has further required a mass balance table of the major Cations and Anions for each quarterly analysis. PRCC should continue to monitor surface and groundwater in accordance with the August 14, 1980 approved water monitoring program until approval of their proposed program is formally granted.

#### UMC 817.81-.93 Coal Processing Waste

Weekly refuse inspection reports for MSHA were examined at the plant office. The water level in the rockfill was reported from piezometer readings. PRCC intends to remove sloughage (boulders) in the diversion above School House Canyon to meet MSHA sizing specifications. No problems were noted in the inspection reports.

#### UMC 817.89 Disposal of Noncoal Wastes

An accumulation of trash (wastepaper, cans, galvanized sheet metal, etc.) needs to be cleared out of the Barn Canyon diversion and properly disposed of.

#### UMC 817.99 Slides and Other Damage

Two slides occurred recently in Crandall Canyon. A minor slide into the undisturbed diversion adjacent to the old magazine storage site was being cleared before this inspection. A more major slide, which occurred along the access road, had been removed and excess material stored along a turnoff area. These slides did not present a hazard so were not reported by PRCC.

#### UMC 817.100 Contemporaneous Reclamation

The borrow area used for obtaining material for installation of the Willow Creek Bridge was stabilized last fall, but is not sufficiently reclaimed. More acceptable reclamation plans were discussed during this inspection. PRCC should regrade the vertical

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borrow cut to a 2:1 slope for revegetation. This will entail the disturbance of an additional twenty feet of area beyond the borrow area to bury the cut. Rob Wiley committed to recontour the borrow area this summer in preparation for seeding in the fall.

UMC 817.111-.117 Revegetation

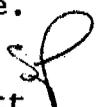
Revegetation success on the embankment of Sediment Pond 012B was good with several weed invaders. Germination success on the tactified and mulched cut slopes of the Crandall Canyon access road appeared very good, considering the near vertical slope. The laydown area at the bottom of Crandall Canyon is revegetating very well.

UMC 817.121-.126 Subsidence Control

The 1983 subsidence monitoring report is due.

UMC 817.150-.176 Roads

As mentioned above, PRCC is preparing a contract for finish work at Crandall Canyon which will include repair of riprap at the road drainage culvert discharge points. All culvert inlets inspected were clear of obstruction. The drainage ditch along the road to the leach field was recently cleared of sloughage.

  
Sandy Pruitt  
Mining Field Specialist

SP:re

cc: Dave Maxwell, OSM, Denver  
Jodie Merriman, OSM, Albuquerque  
Rob Wiley, PRCC  
Joe Helfrich, DOGM  
Sue Linner, DOGM

Statistics: See New Tech memo dated June 15, 1984  
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