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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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File

December 3, 1991

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
P 074 979 166

Mr. James W. Buck, Manager
One Riverfront Place
20 Northwest 1st Place
Evansville, Indiana 47708-1258

Dear Mr. Buck:

Re: Proposed Assessment for State Violation No. N91-38-3-1, Amax Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Folder #5, Carbon County, Utah

The undersigned has been appointed by the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R614-401.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above-referenced violation. The violation was issued by Division Inspector, Sharon K. Falvey on October 31, 1991. Rule R614-401-600 et. sec. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty. By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the Notice of Violation, has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty.

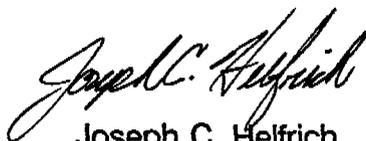
Under R614-401-700, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

1. If you wish to informally appeal the fact of this violation, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within 30 days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.

2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within 30 days of receipt of this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph 1, the Assessment Conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of violation will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the proposed assessment. Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Vicki Bailey.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Helfrich
Assessment Officer

jbe
Enclosure

... PROBABILITY	RANGE
... None	0
... Unlikely	1-9
... Likely	10-19
... Occurred	20

ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS 20

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

The inspector's statement revealed that noncoal waste materials were buried at Hardscrabble Canyon on the pad area adjacent to the bathhouse. Wood logs, PVC pipes, and miscellaneous wastes were buried against the highwall, partially buried under pad material. Waste materials were visible when standing at the top of the berm.

3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage?

RANGE 0 - 25*

*In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

ASSIGN DAMAGE POINTS 5

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

Minimal. Additionally, potential damage off the permit area would be low because the waste materials are relatively inert.

B. Hindrance Violations MAX 25 PTS

1. Is this a potential or actual hindrance to enforcement?

RANGE 0 - 25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

ASSIGN HINDRANCE POINTS

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS (A or B) 25

III. NEGLIGENCE MAX 30 PTS

- A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? **IF SO - NO NEGLIGENCE;**
 OR Was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference, lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, or the failure to abate any violation due to the same? **IF SO - NEGLIGENCE;**
 OR Was this violation the result of reckless, knowing, or intentional conduct? **IF SO - GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.**

... No Negligence	0
... Negligence	1-15
... Greater Degree of Fault	16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE Greater Degree of Fault

ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 20

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

The inspector's statement revealed that the operator did receive prior warning of noncompliance. In one instance, October 16, 1991, the mine representative said that the materials would be removed from the site. The following day, October 17, 1991, the waste materials were built into the berm. At this time, the operator was informed that this was a violation of the regulations and the materials needed to be removed and placed in the proper waste handling facilities. There were no previous occurrences of this violation in 1990 and 1991.

IV. GOOD FAITH MAX 20 PTS. (EITHER A or B) (Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures.)

- A. Did the operator have onsite the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?
 ... **IF SO - EASY ABATEMENT**
 Easy Abatement Situation
- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| ... Immediate Compliance | -11 to -20* |
| ... Immediately following the issuance of the NOV) | |
| ... Rapid Compliance | -1 to -10* |
| ... (Permittee used diligence to abate the violation) | |
| ... Normal Compliance | 0 |
- (Operator complied within the abatement period required)

(Operator complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

* Assign in upper or lower half of range depending on abatement occurring in 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.

B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance OR does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

... IF SO - DIFFICULT ABATEMENT

Difficult Abatement Situation

- ... Rapid Compliance -11 to -20*
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- ... Normal Compliance -1 to -10*
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- ... Extended Compliance 0
(Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard, or the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)
(Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? _____ ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS 0

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS

The operator complied on the abatement date.

V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FOR N91-38-3-1

I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	<u>0</u>
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	<u>25</u>
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	<u>20</u>
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS	<u>-0</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	<u>45</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED FINE	<u>\$ 800.00</u>

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