



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: X Complete: Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: December 8, 1993, 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
Date of Last Inspection: November 30, 1993

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: AMAX Coal Co.
Business Address: 165 S. Union Blvd, Ste. 1000, P. O. Box 280219, Lakewood, CO 80228-0219
Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface Prep. Plant X Other
State Officials(s): Paul Baker
Company Official(s): Richard Allison
Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Partly Cloudy, up to about 4 inches of snow on ground
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7619 Disturbed- 170 Regraded- 13.2 Seeded- 13.2 Bonded- 134.5
Increased/Decreased: Permitted- 0 Disturbed- 0 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 0
Status: Exploration/Active/Inactive/Temporary Cessation/Bond Forfeiture
Reclamation (X Phase I/ Phase II/ Final Bond Release/ 9 for Goose Island Liability Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
 - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_(date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 2 of 2

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: December 8, 1993

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

December 7, 1993, correspondence from Lowell Braxton to Keith Seiber, Vice President and General Manager of the Star Point Mine, and Richard Allison requested information about how the merger of Cyprus and AMAX may affect the permit status of the Star Point and Castle Gate Mines with respect to the permit transfer requirements. It asked for analysis of how the merger affects the ownership and control status as contemplated in the regulations. The letter requested a response within 10 days of receipt.

4. Hydrologic Balance

In Sowbelly Gulch, an approximately 1000-gallon fuel tank has been temporarily placed near pond 5. The area around this tank and some barrels, presumably containing oil products, has been bermed, but the adequacy of this berm to contain all of the material from these containers if they were all full and if they ruptured is questionable. However, any spill would go to pond 5. SPCC regulations, and by reference the R645 regulations, require an SPCC plan to be prepared within six months of the date that operations commence where there could be a spill. These regulations also require the plan to be implemented within one year of the commencement of operations. If this tank is to be kept at the site for more than a total of six months, an SPCC plan needs to be prepared and would need to be reviewed and certified by a registered professional engineer. Even if the containers are not going to be present for over six months, the berm around them should be raised so that any spills could be contained as much as possible. Inasmuch as spoil is being used as substitute soil, this would also reduce contamination of the plant growth medium.

a. Diversions

Mr. Allison stated that work on the channel in the No. 4 Mine canyon is not yet completed and that some finishing needs to be done at the upper and lower ends. At the upper end, the bottom of the channel is supposed to be 10 feet wide, but it is only about 3 feet wide, the same as the rest of the channel.

c. Other Sediment Control Measures

The previous inspection report identified some problems with the way that the sediment fences had been installed in the No. 4 Mine canyon. Except for a few areas where the ground was frozen, the problems with the degree of overlap and with some small areas not having fences have been corrected. The entire area had had some erosion protection, such as mulch and/or roughening, but there were a few areas where the sediment fences needed to be improved.

12. Backfilling and Grading

Some discrepancies in the backfilling and grading in the No. 4 Mine canyon compared with the plan have been noted in past inspection reports, and the Division has not determined the work to be adequate. Mr. Allison told me by telephone on December 15, 1993, that he does not think it will be necessary to submit as-builts because the grading was done essentially according to the plan.

13. Revegetation

The area on the east side of the channel in Sowbelly Gulch had not yet been seeded. Most of the snow was gone from this area. Mel Coonrod told me by telephone on December 13, 1993, that this area was being seeded as we were speaking and that it should be completed later that day.

On the edge of the graded areas in the No. 4 Mine canyon, there are numerous dyer's woad seedlings. AMAX should make every effort to control these next spring so that they will not invade reclaimed areas. Depending on the weather, the best time for herbicide application is usually in late April or early May.

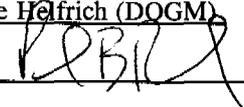
14. Subsidence

According to Mr. Allison, subsidence monitoring was done this year, and the results will be included in the annual report.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Richard Allison (AMAX), Marcia Petta (OSM)

Given to: Joe Holfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: 

Paul B. Baker #41

Date: December 15, 1993