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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: Complete: Exploration:

Inspection Date & Time: August 10, 1993, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Date of Last Inspection: July 15, 1993

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: AMAX Coal West

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 Other

State Official(s): Paul Baker

Company Official(s): Richard Allison

Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Cloudy with showers, 70's

Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7619 Disturbed- 170 Regraded- 6.5 Seeded- 6.5 Bonded- 134.5

Increased/Decreased: Permitted- 0 Disturbed- 0 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 0

Status: Exploration/ Active/ Inactive/ Temporary Cessation/ Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (Phase I/ Phase II/ Final Bond Release/ 9 for Goose Island Liability Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - a. 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.
 - b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: August 10, 1993

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

By letter dated July 20, 1993, the Division approved the submittals intended to satisfy the requirements of the Settlement Agreement under Docket 91-001 for the Castle Gate, Adit #1, and gravel Canyon areas. There are still a few technical problems with the plans.

The July 20 letter also requests that Mr. Allison schedule a meeting with the Division to discuss the submittal of information on Crandall Canyon.

Also on July 20, 1993, the Division approved Amendment 91C and submittals intended to satisfy Division Order 92A. The approval is based on AMAX completing reclamation of Hardscrabble Canyon within the 18 month period discussed in the plan.

On July 19, 1993, the abatement date for violation N92-39-7-1 was extended to August 31, 1993.

Mr. Allison told me that EIS has been or will be awarded the contract to reclaim the disturbance in Sowbelly Gulch. Reclamation in this canyon is expected to begin near the end of August.

We again met AML personnel and discussed some of the reclamation that they plan to do this year. Pete Ferguson found an old open portal to the west of the road in Hardscrabble Canyon between sediment ponds 8 and 9. During the inspection, Mr. Allison and I found another previously unidentified portal in Barn Canyon. The portal in Hardscrabble Canyon is outside the disturbed area boundary, but the one in Barn Canyon may be within the disturbed area. This is being checked with the plan maps.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Diversions

I measured 98 rocks that are intended to be used as riprap in the No. 4 Mine canyon. Using an average diameter to estimate the volume, assuming that the densities of the rocks are the same, then using the smallest diameter as the size of the rock, the D_{50} was calculated to be 4.5 inches. The maximum required riprap size is 5 inches. However, the procedure used underestimates the size of the rock, and a Division hydrologist and I believe that the D_{50} of the rock to be used is probably very close to the size needed.

AMAX was working to abate violation N92-39-7-1 on the Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile. A trackhoe had been excavating the channel, and the filter blanket material had been stockpiled but not placed.

c. Other Sediment Control Measures

The straw bale near the entrance to the preparation plant has not yet been replaced. One of the berms that was breached by crews from Pacific Corp. had been restored, but the other was in a position where it does not appear to need to be restored.

d. Water Monitoring

Most of the water monitoring was performed according to the plan. Water was pumped from pond 14, a UPDES monitoring site, in Crandall Canyon in April, and this discharge was not tested for iron. Mr. Allison indicated that there is a place in the general UPDES permit that says testing for iron is "N/A"; however, R645-301-731.222.1, 40 CFR Part 434, and the copy of the UPDES permit for Castle Gate given to me by Water Quality all clearly show that iron must be included as one of the parameters to be monitored in water discharges. N93-41-2-1 was issued for failing to monitor the discharge in accordance with the UPDES permit and the R645 and 40 CFR regulations. However, there are several other parameters which were tested for which probably do not need to be checked, and there is very little likelihood of there having been environmental harm because of this parameter being missed.

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12. Backfilling and Grading

Mr. Allison stated that AMAX has basically completed grading work in the No. 4 Mine canyon. I took several measurements of the cut slopes and highwall that are to remain and found some possible discrepancies with the plan. The Division will further evaluate whether or not the grading meets AOC restoration requirements.

AMAX is salvaging some coal from the area of the preparation plant and is taking some coal refuse material to the Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile.

13. Revegetation

Although it was sprayed earlier in the year, some of the musk thistle in Crandall Canyon is still alive. However, I examined seeds from several seed heads and only found one or two seeds that might be viable.

We found one dyer's woad plant in Crandall Canyon. The viability test on the dyer's woad from Hardscrabble Canyon indicated just 4% viability for seeds on plants that were sprayed.

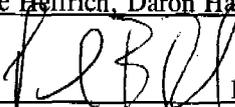
20. Air Quality Permit

Because of rain that fell the morning before I arrived, there was no water truck at the preparation plant to water the area to reduce fugitive dust. The Air Quality Permit includes requirements to spray or treat unpaved roads and other unpaved operational areas to reduce fugitive dust. The application rate of water is to be a minimum of 0.5 gallons per square yard. Application must be made at least once every two hours during all times the installation is in use unless daily rainfall exceeds .10 of inch.

Copy of this Report:

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

Given to: Joe Helfrich, Daron Haddock (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature:  Paul B. Baker #41 Date: August 23, 1993