



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: March 18, 1993, 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Date of Last Inspection: February 25, 1993

Handwritten initials/signature

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

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: AMAX Coal Co.

Business Address: 2273 Bishop Rd., P. O. Box 3005, Gillette, WY 82717-3005

Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Prep. Plant Other

State Official(s): Paul Baker

Company Official(s): Richard Allison

Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Partly Cloudy, 40's, Solid to patchy snow cover

Existing Acreage: Permitted- 8510 Disturbed- 134.5 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/ 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: March 18, 1993

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Crandall Canyon and Sowbelly Gulch are still inaccessible. Hardscrabble Canyon is not accessible above Pond 7. Most areas still have at least one foot of snow, but the snow is nearly gone from the preparation plant area. Most ditches had some water flowing in them from melting snow.

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

In response to a request from an inspector, the Division received a letter dated February 12, 1993, which listed current corporate officers and corporate structure for AMAX. The Division responded by asking AMAX to update the ownership and control section of its MRP to reflect current information.

On March 5, 1993, the Division sent a letter to AMAX stating that the plans to abate NOV 92-39-7-1 meet the regulatory requirements but that a few necessary details need to be provided in order for the designs to be implemented properly.

Review of the February response to Division Order 92-A should be completed by March 22, 1993.

Other pending enforcement actions and amendments include the reviews and responses under Docket No. 91-001. The Division sent AMAX an updated schedule of review and response times on March 5, 1993.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Diversions

There is an area on the east side of the Price River by the bridge that leads to the unit train loadout where drainage from a small area leading to the bridge is supposed to be treated by straw bales before entering the river. The straw bales have deteriorated to the point of being ineffective. Mr. Allison instructed a contractor who was present at the time of the inspection to build a berm to divert water so that it would eventually enter pond 11. The berm that was constructed across the approach to the bridge before the end of the inspection prevented water from going into the river but did not direct it toward the pond. I spoke with Pete Furgeson on March 19 about the inadequacy of the berm that had been built. He informed me that he had spoken with the contractor and that the berm would be built to tie in with the existing berm on the north and south of the bridge approach.

b. Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

In the ditch between pond 9 and the road in Hardscrabble Canyon, there is a hole that has opened up. The hole is about 3 feet deep and 3 feet in diameter and goes slightly under the edge of the road. It is not clear what caused the hole, but there is a potential that some water is piping into the pond. An engineer on the Division's staff recommended that the hole be filled with fine material and that the area be watched for any problems in the future.

10. Slides and Other Damage

The contractor on site at the time of the inspection was cleaning a slide from the road leading to the refuse pile. Material was mostly cleared from the road when Mr. Allison and I arrived. The slide did not appear to fit the criteria of R645-301-515.100 for reporting. Rather, it was probably the result of snowmelt or frost heaving in a limited area. Also, there was a large rock that had fallen on the road in Hardscrabble Canyon. The rock was large enough to block about half of the road.

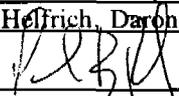
18. Support Facilities and Utility Installations

A metal shop building above pond 7 in Hardscrabble Canyon collapsed, probably under the weight of the snow.

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: March 19, 1993