



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: January 20, 1993, 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
Date of Last Inspection: December 16, 1992

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 X Surface Prep. Plant Other
State Official(s): Paul Baker
Company Official(s): Richard Allison
Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Clear, 40's, 2-3 feet of snow on ground
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/ X 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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 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 checked="" 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 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 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: January 20, 1993

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Because of the amount of snow, there was little or nothing that could be seen on the ground. There had been at least two snow slides on the county road in Hardscrabble Canyon, and the county has indicated that they will probably not plow the road any more this winter. The other areas, Sowbelly Gulch, the prep plant, and Crandall Canyon, were inaccessible by vehicle, but Mr. Allison and I skied into Crandall Canyon. We looked at the sediment ponds and the main channel, but the ditches and culverts were covered with at least 3 feet of snow.

Because it is anticipated that Hardscrabble Canyon will not be accessible through the rest of the winter, AMAX is planning to maintain records at an office in Helper, either Environment Industrial Services or Blackhawk Engineering, at least through March. They will probably be requesting that records be maintained at one of these offices from now on since the mine offices are scheduled for reclamation in the near future.

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

Pending enforcement actions and amendments include the responses to the December 18, 1990, Division Order and subsequent violation N91-28-2-1, Division Order 92-A, and violation N92-39-7-1. The abatement period for N92-39-7-1 has been extended to June 30, 1993 due to weather conditions. On January 12, 1993, the Division sent a deficiency letter concerning the submittal intended to satisfy Division Order 92-A, and AMAX is supposed to respond by February 12, 1993.

4. Hydrologic Balance

d. Water Monitoring

There is a discrepancy in the plan that needs to be corrected with the current review of Chapter 7. The plan lists settleable solids as a parameter to be analyzed by the laboratory when it should be analyzed in the field. The laboratory has instead been analyzing the samples for suspended solids which is not included in the list of parameters.

September monitoring of the water coming from the Adit that now flows directly into the Price River showed elevated SAR and TDS levels (SAR was 20.4, TDS was 4330 mg/l). The flow was 4.8 gallons per minute. Water was not discharging from this point in November. SAR and TDS are not parameters included in 40 CFR 434.52(b)(2) or 434.53(b)(2), and this is not an NPDES monitoring point. However, water of this quality would be considered unacceptable for most irrigation purposes.

Water Quality made the determination that the Adit discharge did not need to be regulated based on a flow of 1.1 gallons per minute rather than 4.8 gpm, and they may not have considered the elevated SAR level. The high SAR and TDS values were discussed with Mike Herkimer of Water Quality. He felt that, because of the relatively low flow compared to the amount of water in the Price River, there is probably no need to regulate the discharge. However, he advised that downstream sampling in the Price River be watched, particularly at times of low flow, for signs of water quality deterioration.

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: January 26, 1993