



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: May 17, 1995, 9:15 A.M. to 1:45 P.M.

Date of Last Inspection: April 5, 1995

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004
 Permittee and/or Operator's Name: AMAX Coal Co.
 Business Address: P. O. Box 449, Helper, Utah
 Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Prep. Plant Other
 State Official(s): Paul Baker
 Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas
 Federal Official(s): None
 Weather Conditions: Mostly Cloudy, Rain Showers, 50's
 Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7619 Disturbed- 170 Regraded- 33.2 Seeded- 33.2 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/ 10 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" 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) <u>May 17, 1995</u> (date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" 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: May 17, 1995

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

In February, the Division received as-builts for the Sowbelly Gulch reclamation. On April 27, 1995, the Division completed its review to determine whether reclamation meets regulatory requirements. The Division's letter says Amax has not met the requirements for Phase I bond release.

On May 11, 1995, a hearing was held concerning Amax's proposal to conduct mining and reclamation operations within 100 feet of the right-of-way of Highway 191 in Willow Creek Canyon. Eight people attended the hearing, but all declined comment.

On May 18, 1995, the Division approved Amax's plan to cover the exposed coal seam in Hardscrabble. Amax must submit a certified blasting plan to the Division and receive approval prior to conducting any blasting at the site.

Cyprus Plateau Mining Company is planning to use the road in Barn Canyon for exploration associated with the proposed Willow Creek Mine. The Bureau of Land Management is the lead permitting authority for the exploration project. On May 22, 1995, the Division wrote Cyprus explaining it is the understanding of the Division that the road through Barn Canyon will not be upgraded but will be left in its current configuration. Mr. Ben Grimes of Cyprus telephoned me about this road. There is a short section where it crosses sediment and rocks that have eroded from the side of Barn Canyon. He said the company would have to do some minor rehabilitation to cross this alluvium. This will not change the road configuration.

In response to item No. 1 of Division Order 94A, Amax submitted an amendment application on April 20, 1995. This application was approved with stipulations on May 26, 1995. The amendment mostly concerns formatting changes and removing conflicting information.

4. Hydrologic Balance

d. Water Monitoring

The operator did not take samples of the snowmelt runoff leaving the Sowbelly Gulch area on March 13. This is not required by the plan, but it is to the operator's advantage to take samples when there is water in the channel. Otherwise, there will be no data on which to base a finding about sediment control for Phase II bond release.

The operator should try to obtain samples of water in Crandall Canyon Creek while the water is running.

5. Explosives

Explosives were used to collapse the concrete around the fan portal in Sowbelly Gulch. No blast design was submitted to the Division, and the mining and reclamation plan contains only general descriptions of blasts. This was a potentially dangerous situation because the mine was known to have a lot of methane. R645-301-524.200 requires submission of an anticipated blast design for all blasts if blasting operations will be conducted within 500 feet of an active or abandoned underground mine. N95-41-1-1 was written for failing to comply with this regulation.

8. Noncoal Waste

Near the entrance to the Castle Gate Preparation Plant, there is a dumpster with a lot of trash around it. Although this dumpster is outside the disturbed area boundary and although it is the responsibility of PacifiCorp, its location makes it look like it belongs to Amax. Amax should consider contacting PacifiCorp and asking them to keep the trash picked up.

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13. Revegetation

Whitetop in Crandall Canyon has been sprayed. It would be best to respray the whitetop on the topsoil pile near the mouth of the canyon because some was missed and because it should give better control than just one application. Whitetop in Gravel Canyon was not sprayed.

The operator needs to begin control efforts on dyer's woad in Hardscrabble Canyon as soon as possible. It is about ready to bloom. If the operator uses an herbicide, further delay will result in the herbicide being less effective.

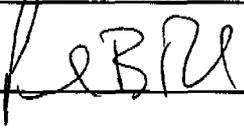
18. Support Facilities/Utility Installations

The operator has begun demolition in Hardscrabble Canyon. So far, it looks like the only structures to be removed are utility poles and lines.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Donna Griffin (OSM), Johnny Pappas (Amax)

Given to: Joe Helfrich, Daron Haddock (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature:  Paul B. Baker #41 Date: May 31, 1995