



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: November 4, 1997, 12:20 to 3:00 PM
Date of Last Inspection: October 10, 1997

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Amax Coal Co.
Business Address: P. O. Drawer PMC, Price, Utah 84501
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 Clear, 50's
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7509.5 Disturbed- 61 Regraded- abt. 29 Seeded- abt 29 Bonded- 61
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/ 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/ENE
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 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 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 checked="" 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 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 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 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 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)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: November 4, 1997

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

On November 4, 1997, the Division approved amendment 97A. This has a revised legal description of the permit area. The Division will need to issue a revised permit showing the new description.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Diversions

Some work has been done to tie in sections of the main channel through Goose Island (HCRD-11) leading into the channel in the newly-reclaimed areas (HCRD-8). Previous inspection reports have discussed erosion occurring at the transition between the two channels. At the advice of a professional engineer, some large rocks were keyed into the ground in this area. Sharon Falvey, Division hydrologist, visited the site in October and felt the work was basically adequate, but there is one rock in the middle of the channel that should be moved so water is not diverted to the side.

In one small area near the upper part of HCRD-8, the west side of the channel is higher than the adjacent area. The swale in the adjacent area has several mature oak tree sprouts that the permittee did not want to disturb, and the configuration is such that they should control erosion from any water that might come in from the channel. While this does not match the design, I believe it will be in compliance with the rules.

A raised area will be built between channel HCRD-2 and the main channel.

HCRD-6 is a very steep channel that comes down from the No. 3 Mine area. The top portion of it needs to better tie in with the undisturbed channel above.

12. Backfilling and Grading

We discussed several details of the backfilling and grading plan. The permittee is giving a lot of attention to detail which is resulting in superior reclamation work. Some of the concerns I expressed are:

The road near the upper portion of the reclaimed area is relatively steep and is sloped in a way that I am concerned about runoff concentrating on the road and creating erosion both on the road and on revegetated areas. The reclamation contractor said he intends to drop the elevation of the road in this area and slope it so runoff would be controlled in a ditch on the west side of the road.

To the south of HCRD-5, grading near the road is currently such that runoff would be channeled in the road. This will need to be corrected.

Mr. Pappas and I continually emphasized to the contractor the need to make the slopes concave. There are a few areas where this has not been done, but the contractor assured us the areas will either be regraded or some of the soil making the slopes convex will be used in other areas, such as in the channels.

13. Revegetation

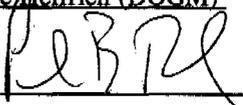
Because of the very good success with using gallon containerized transplants last fall, Mr. Pappas wants to use some this year. Transplants are to be planted at the rate of 500 per acre within about 20 feet of the main channel. Since the area is about 5 acres, about 2500 transplants need to be planted. The contractor has 2000 tubelings, and he asked for my recommendations for the other five hundred which would be from gallon containerized stock. The plan allows for substitutions when the specified species are not available, and some are not available. The species I recommended are elderberry, pinyon, chokecherry, bigtooth maple, Gambel's oak, Wood's rose, and curleaf mountain mahogany.

In some areas, the mulch is almost too thick. I advised the contractor not to have it be any thicker, but the areas that have already been mulched do not need to be redone.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: James Fulton (OSM), Johnny Pappas (Amax)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature:  Paul B. Baker #41 Date: November 7, 1997