

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 INSPECTION REPORT

Michael O. Leavitt PO Box 145801 Governor

Kathleen Clarke **Executive Director**

Lowell P. Braxton Division Director Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

Exploration:_ Complete: X Partial:_ Inspection Date & Time: September 28, 1999 10:10 AM to 5:00 PM

Date of Last Inspection: August 20, 1999

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

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Castle Gate Holding Company Business Address: 847 Northwest Highway 191, Helper, Utah 84526

Other Surface_ Prep. Plant_ Type of Mining Activity: Underground X

State Officials(s): Paul Baker Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas Federal Official(s): Henry Austin Weather Conditions: Clear, 50's

Existing Acreage: Permitted-7509.5 Disturbed-63 Regraded-60 Seeded-60 Bonded-63 Increased/Decreased: Permitted-<u>0</u> Disturbed-<u>0</u> Regraded-<u>0</u> Seeded-<u>0</u> Bonded-<u>0</u>

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/ENF
1. Pl	ERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE			[<u>X]</u> [X]	
	IGNS AND MARKERS	[<u>X]</u> [X]	H	<u>[X]</u> []	$\overline{\Box}$
3. T	OPSOIL	IAI	. 11	· •	
	YDROLOGIC BALANCE:	[X]	П	[X]	\Box
a. D	DIVERSIONS	ĺΧÌ	$\overline{\Box}$	<u>[X]</u> [_]	Ц
b. S.	EDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$			Ħ
c. O	VATER MONITORING	X	\Box	\Box	빉
a. v	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	[X]	\Box	Ц	片
	EXPLOSIVES	Ц	[X]	ij	H
6 Г	DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	П	ĮΧΙ		
7. C	COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	[X]	[X] [] []		· H
8 N	NONCOAL WASTE	[X]	Ц	Ц	1_1
9 P	PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND	13/1	r ı	П	[]
R	RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	[X]	П		īī .
10. S	SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<u>[X]</u> [X]	片	ίΧι	\Box
11.	CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<u>[X]</u> [X]	H	IXI	$\overline{\square}$
	BACKFILLING AND GRADING	[X]	Ħ	ĪX]	\Box
	REVEGETATION	[X]		X X X L	
14.	SUBSIDENCE CONTROL		$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$	<u> []</u>	\Box
	CESSATION OF OPERATIONS				
16. I	ROADS: CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	[X]	\Box	\Box	Ц
a. (DRAINAGE CONTROLS	[X]	\Box		Ц
	OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	П	[X]	Ц	片
17. (SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	[X]	Ц	Ц	片
19.	AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_(date)	П	Ц		11
20.	AIR QUALITY PERMIT	[X]	П	ĹΔΙ	
21.	BONDING & INSURANCE	[X]	П	[X]	1-1

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(Continuation sheet) Page 2 of 2

PERMIT NUMBER: <u>ACT/007/004</u> DATE OF INSPECTION: <u>September 28, 1999</u>

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

On August 24, 1999, the Division received a permit renewal application. The Division has reviewed this application and notified the operator of deficiencies.

2. Signs and Markers

There is an outdated sign at the Sowbelly substation that should be removed. There is a sign at the access from the county road, and the sign at the substation is not needed.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Diversions

The berm under the gate at Adit No. 1 has not failed but is getting low.

One of the water bars on the road in Hardscrabble Canyon needs to be cleaned out.

We discussed the problems relating to HCRD-10 in the Goose Island area. Despite a lot of rain this past summer, I did not see signs that there was additional rilling next to the channel, so the work that was done last year may have been enough to direct water to the channel.

The steeper parts of HCRD-10 do not have the depth shown in the mining and reclamation plan, but the channel has been stable for the past 15 years. It is possible the full depth is not needed in the steeper sections, but the operator has not made this demonstration.

Possible solutions to problems associated with HCRD-10 and the main Hardscrabble channel (see January 1999 inspection report) include lowering parts of HCRD-10 and burying some of the refuse and concrete elsewhere on the site, rearmoring parts of one side of the main Hardscrabble channel, and applying some topsoil in the area where the feeder ditch was removed in 1998.

11. Contemporaneous Reclamation

We talked about the schedule for reclaiming Adit No. 1. This adit has not been used in several years, and it does not appear there are any plans for using it in the future. The reclamation plan will need to be revised to deal with issues relating to the highway and public utilities. The operator should begin making preliminary steps to reclaim this area, such as contacting the Department of Transportation to determine what their needs are.

12. Backfilling and Grading

During the inspection, a contractor was working to move refuse from the ledge above the gate (see the August inspection report). The operator intends to have this refuse buried in an area between the road and the ledge.

13. Revegetation

Vegetation continues to progress in the Sowbelly Gulch area. Areas dominated by weeds are gradually becoming smaller. In the past, there has been a lot of cheatgrass in the first canyon on the left, but there is relatively little. We found a few musk thistle plants in Sowbelly, but, as far as I am aware, no plants have gone to seed this year.

21. Bonding and Insurance

On August 30, 1999, the Division received three sureties for the Castle Gate Mine, and on September 7, 1999, the Division returned them. The Division identified various problems with the issuance of three bonds for one mine, the liability statements in the bonds, and with the powers of attorney included with the bonds. In the meantime, the existing bond in the name of Castle Gate Holding Company is still effective.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: James Fulton (OSM), Johnny Pappas (Castle Gate)

Given to: Pamela Grubaugh-Lattig (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: Paul B. Baker #41 Date: October 5, 1999