

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR. Governor

GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:				
OGM	Jerriann Ernstsen Environmental Scientist II			
Company	Dennis Ware Controller			

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070004		
Inspection Type:	PARTIAL		
Inspection Date:	Thursday, July 28, 2005		
Start Date/Time:	7/28/2005 10:00:00 AM		
End Date/Time:	7/28/2005 4:00:00 PM		
Last Inspection:	Wednesday, June 29, 2005		

Inspector: Jerriann Ernstsen, Environmental Scientist II

Weather: sunny; 90's

InspectionID Report Number: 689

Accepted by: pgrubaug 8/9/2005

Permitee: CASTLE GATE HOLDING CO
Operator: CASTLE GATE HOLDING CO

Site: CASTLE GATE MINE

Address: PO BOX 30, HELPER UT 84526-0030

County: CARBON

Permit Type: PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM

Permit Status: ACTIVE

Current Acreages

Total Permitted	7,619.00
Total Disturbed	63.00
Phase I	29.20
Phase II	18.20
Phase III	

Mineral Ownership Types of Operations

	•	• •
✓ Federal		✓ Underground
✓ State		Surface
County		✓ Loadout
✓ Fee		✓ Processing
Other		Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The purpose of this site visit was to conduct a partial inspection of the Castle Gate facilities. The Adit, Hardscrabble, and Sowbelly roads were evaluated.

No compliance issues were noted.

Inspector's 8	Signature
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Date

Monday, August 08, 2005

Jerriann Ernstsen, Environmental Scientist II Inspector ID Number: 52

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.

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REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

- 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 Not Applicable. b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- 2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performace standard listed below.
 Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.

		Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1.	Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale				
2.	Signs and Markers	✓		✓	
3.	Topsoil		✓		
4.a	Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	✓		✓	
4.b	Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments		✓		
4.c	Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	~		✓	
4.d	Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring				
4.e	Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations		~		
5.	Explosives		✓		
6.	Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches		✓		
7.	Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments		✓		
8.	Noncoal Waste				
9.	Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	✓		✓	
10.	Slides and Other Damage	✓		✓	
11.	Contemporaneous Reclamation		✓		
12.	Backfilling And Grading		✓		
13.	Revegetation	✓		✓	
14.	Subsidence Control		✓		
15.	Cessation of Operations		✓		
16.	a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing		✓		
16.	o Roads: Drainage Controls				
17.	Other Transportation Facilities		✓		
18.	Support Facilities, Utility Installations		✓		
19.	AVS Check		✓		
20.	Air Quality Permit		✓		
21.	Bonding and Insurance				
22.	Other				

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2. Signs and Markers

Signs containing the required information were posted at access points to the reclaimed area at the Adit, Hardscrabble, and Sowbelly.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

Adit: Channel was flowing (~1 gal/min) approximately the same as 6/29/05. Hardscrabble: No channels were flowing or appeared wet at the surface. Sowbelly: No channels were flowing or appeared wet at the surface.

4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

Adit: There is a "heavy", white sediment depositing along the channel. The water flows out of two pipes on the southern side of the drainage. There is significant algae growth along the entire channel, especially near the pipes.

9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues

No significant signs of current big game presence at Adit, Hardscrabble, or Sowbelly.

10. Slides and Other Damage

No signs of noticeable slides or sloughing at Adit, Hardscrabble, or Sowbelly.

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13. Revegetation

Adit: There is a significant crop of cheatgrass growing on the northern slope - southern exposure above the reclamation site was in seed. The Permittee may want to keep an eye on the spread of cheatgrass to the reclaimed site. Because the revegetation efforts were so successful, the likelihood cheatgrass invading this site is minimal, at this time. Observed plant species at Adit include the following: *winterfat, *four wing saltbush, sumac, *Palmer penstemon, gum weed (along road), *flax, kochia (along road), *sweetclover, *blueleaf aster (along road), *Basin wildrye, *blue bunch w.g., *Indian rice grass, foxtail barley (along road & channel), *thickspike w.g., *western w.g., and cheatgrass (marginal).

Hardscrabble: The vegetation of the areas approaching Phase III bond release site was good. Observed plant species at HS PIII include the following: juniper, ponderosa, scrub oak, *big sagebush, *rabbitbrush, *sumac, *Palmer penstemon, gum weed, yarrow, golden eye, *Basin wildrye, *blue bunch w.g., *Indian rice grass, *thickspike w.g., *western w.g., foxtail, and cheatgrass.

The small area (substation) approaching Phase I bond release had high diversity, numbers, and growth. Observed plant species at HS PI include the following: *rabbitbrush, *big sagebush, *Palmer penstemon, gum weed, yarrow, *Basin wildrye, *blue bunch w.g., *Indian rice grass, foxtail barley, *thickspike w.g., *western w.g., and cheatgrass.

Sowbelly: I met with Patrick Collins to go over the SB site. He showed me how he selected his sample locations for the PIII 10 yr bond release survey.

Vegetation at the lower site was fair-good. They had begun their weed control program for the year. This inspection did not include a visit to the upper portion of the site. Observed plant species at SB include the following: *winterfat, *four wing saltbush, *big sagebush, snakeweed, eldeberry, *Palmer penstemon, phlox, gum weed (along road), yarrow, golden eye, *flax, kochia, dock, *Basin wildrye, *blue bunch w.g., *Indian rice grass, foxtail barley (along road & channel), *thickspike w.g., *western w.g., and cheatgrass (marginal).