0004

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/005

File Name: Incoming

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: N/A.

Explanation:

LETTER.

cc:

File in:
C/ 007 , 005 , Incoming
Refer to:
- ☐ Confidential
- ☐ Shelf
- ☐ Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

Company UTAH FUEL COMPANY

P.O. BOX 719

HELPER, UTAH 84526

Inspector HENRY P. AUSTIN

Others DENNIS BYRNES, OSM; KEITH WELCH, KEITH ZOBELL, BILL SHRIVER of Utah Fuel.

Mine SKYLINE MINE

Permit # ACT-007-005

Date: 11-20-85

Inspection Type Complete, statistical samp.

Conducted a complete inspection on site accompanied by the above persons on 11-19 and 20, 1985. Site conditions included two to two and one-half feet of snow throughout the affected areas and well below freezing temperatures. Very little to no snow melt was evident throughout the affected area drainage ways/diversions.

An office review was initiated to discuss enforcement actions thru the past year and pending actions. By far the majority of correspondence between DOGM and Utah Fuel concerns appropriate sizing and maintenance (sediment removal and disposal) of major mine facilities pond located next to loading chute. UT/DOGM notice of violation N84-2-24-3 was issued 12-13-84 for (vio 2 of 3) pumping more underground water thru the pond than authorized by permit. This violation was terminated 8-1-85 and referenced in a letter dated 8-13-85 from DOGM to Utah Fuels which states "... please find attached the termination notice for N84-2-24-3, vio. 2 of 3, with the following stipulations. In this same letter, the DOGM sets a maximum discharge level for mine water entering the pond, at 240,000 GPD. This level was conditionally set pending DOGM review of a two foot contour interval map of the pond. This DOGM map review was necessary to determine accurate pond volume. The letter also required a water discharge recording system to be installed at n[illegible] determine flow rate into pond.

At this poin[illegible] outstanding for eight (8) months [illegible] resolved, and [illegible]

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At this point, the violation was outstanding for eight (8) months before being completely resolved, and

(over)

should "not" have been terminated with the "stipulations" indicated. The length of time between NOV issuance and termination seems extraordinarily long considering the nature of the violation. The only modification to the pond during this time was removing sediment accumulation (which occurred after NOV termination). It seems the UT/DOGM Tech. Section could have requested/reviewed the additional information submittals necessary to resolve the NOV in a much more timely manner. However, the time of year, and the timing of sediment removal to allow for an accurate aerial survey also have to be considered when evaluating the time it took to abate this violation.

On 10-3-85 the DOGM approved a request by Utah Fuels to modify the pond by raising the principal spillway elevation by .9 foot, and securing a series of baffels to the pond to reduce inflow velocity. This date, (11-19-85) the pond was at minimal discharge stage, water sample # 85-1116-7 was taken as discharge entered spillway culvert riser, and delivered to a laboratory 11-19 at 5:00pm for analysis. Both mine water inflow and pond discharge were very clear. Surface water diversions did not appear to be contributing runoff to the pond today. Pond inspections (for both ponds) are being conducted monthly by Keith Zobell, and reported quarterly to DOGM as per the DOGM approval letter of 4-22-85. NPDES reports and permit requirements were reviewed for 1985 to date - no violations noted. Current permit expires in 1987. Mine water discharge flow log was obtained from Mr. Zobell, log indicates flow measurements began 10-11-84 - average flow since last reading (GPD) is being recorded - highest value to date was 230,507 GPD recorded on 10-25-84. Also obtained from Mr. Zobell was 11-18-85 correspondence from Utah Fuels to DOGM concerning (cont.)

condition #2 as requested by DOGM Tech Section in a letter dated 10-18-85 concerning conditional approval for removal/disposal of sediment from sed. pond. This information was given to Mr. Dave Lof, DOGM inspection section, on 11-22-85. Condition #2 referenced above involves the calculations/assumptions used to size the surface diversion along the BC-12 conveyor. We discussed on site the issuance of N 85-2-19-2, vio. 2 of 2, which was issued 9-6-85 and terminated 9-10-85 for bypassing sed. pond while it was being cleaned out, and discharging directly into Eccles Ck. UTAH FUELS interprets their current NPDES permit to allow temporary bypass - according to Mr Zobell. UTAH FUELS is awaiting a hearing on this violation. OSM will monitor the results of this hearing for compliance with the approved UTAH regulatory program and NPDES permitting requirements and operating guidelines.
Small area drainage exemption areas could not be thoroughly evaluated due to depth of snow cover, however, maintainance responsibilities were discussed with Mr. Zobell.

Approved plans have been implemented on the North Fork undisturbed drainage diversion, and topsoil stockpile was regraded/protected. Pictures of construction phases were reviewed, the area was not walked due to inaccessability. Drainage control at the loadout area was observed as far as the snow cover would allow - buffer zone markers were evident - Runoff patterns could not be distinguished on this area.

The waste rock disposal area east of Scofield was also not inspected due to inaccessability. The site is not being utilized currently - and access is restricted.

(cont.)

according to MR Zobell. Original construction phases, including placement of non-combustible lift before waste placement, was certified ~~by~~ on 6-30-85. The last insp./certification of the waste rock site was on 9-30-8 According to MR. Zobell, approx. 1500 cu. yds. of sed. pond sediments was placed in the waste rock fill area. We discussed the citizens complaint(s) initiated by the residents of Scofield thru the Regional Water Quality Office for the Southeastern Association of Local Govts. The complainants alleged speeding trucks in the town limits, and dusty conditions of the roads. DOGM inspection conducted 8-28-85 in response to the complaints. No additional complaints are noted in the record - nor was MR. Zobell aware of any other complaints.

Performance standards indicated as not applicable do not exist on site.

HPA