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VRE 10-9-86

Joe

#7
ACT/007/005

STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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INSPECTION REPORT

Permittee and/or Operators Name: Utah Fuel Company
Business Address: P.O. Box 719 Helper, Ut 84526
Mine Name: Skyline Mine Permit Number: ACT/007/005
Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface ___ Other ___
County: Carbon
Company Official(s): Keith Zobell on 8/27 and Bill Shriver on 8/28
State Official(s): David Lof
Inspection Date and Time: August 27 and 28, 1986 12:35-4:15 and 11:00-3:45 respectively
Partial: ___ Complete: X Date of Last Inspection: 6/19/86
Weather Conditions: High clouds and warm
Acreage: Permitted 4.839 Disturbed 75.9 Regraded ___ Seeded ___ Bonded 75.9
Enforcement Action: None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	Comments
1. PERMITS	X			X
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	X			
3. TOPSOIL	X			
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	X			X
b. DIVERSION'S	X			
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	X			X
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	X			
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	X			
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	X			X
5. EXPLOSIVES			X	
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE AND SPOIL	X			X
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE			X	
8. NONCOAL WASTE	X			
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	X			
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	X			X
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION			X	
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING			X	
13. REVEGETATION			X	
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	X			X
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS			X	
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	X			
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	X			
d. SURFACING	X			
e. MAINTENANCE	X			
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	X			X
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES AND UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	X			X

INSPECTION REPORT
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Permit Number: ACT/007/005 Date of Inspection: 8/28/86

COMMENTS

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1) PERMITS

THE OPERATOR RECEIVED APPROVAL FOR THEIR NEW STOKER COAL UNIT ON 8/13/86, THERE WERE NO STIPULATIONS ATTACHED TO THE PERMIT.

4a.) STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS

THE OPERATOR HAS REGRADED THE NORTH FORK EMERGENCY OVERFLOW CHANNEL AND REESTABLISHED THE WATER BARS IN THE CHANNEL. THEY HAVE ALSO ORDERED THE COCONUT FIBER BLANKET WHICH THEY ARE GOING TO USE TO LINE THE CHANNEL WITH TO PROTECT IT FROM EROSION AND ENHANCE VEGETATION ESTABLISHMENT.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STABILIZATION AND PAVING OF THE HIGHWAY UP PAST THE MINE THE SUMMER THE STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT (UDOT) INSTALLED A CULVERT IN THE SOUTH FORK OF EAGLES CREEK WHICH CONNECTED THE OPERATORS SOUTH FORK BYPASS CULVERT WITH THE EXISTING CULVERT UNDER THE HIGHWAY. UDOT USED THIS AREA AS A PLACE TO PUT EXCESS FILL FROM THE ROAD. THEY HAVE BACKFILLED THE CULVERT AND END-DUMPED FILL MATERIAL ONTO THE SOUTHERN DOWNSLOPE INTO THE AREA. THE END-DUMPED MATERIAL IS TOO STEEP AND UNSTABLE, UDOT SHOULD REGRADE THE SLOPE TO ENSURE ITS STABILITY. A DROP DRAIN HAS BEEN PROVIDED NEAR THE INLET FOR THE OPERATORS BYPASS CULVERT WHICH WILL DRAIN BOTH HIGHWAY RUNOFF AND RUNOFF FROM THE OPERATORS OVERLAND FLOW DIVERSION DITCH ABOVE THE #1 MINE PORTALS. THE OPERATOR IS WILLING TO DO SOME WORK IN THE AREA TO HELP STABILIZE IT BUT DOESN'T WANT TO UNTIL THEY ARE SURE UDOT IS FINISHED.

4c.) SEDIMENT PONDS

SEDIMENT POND INSPECTION REPORTS WERE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE 2ND QUARTER OF 1986 AS REQUIRED AND THERE NO PROBLEMS INDICATED.

THE OPERATOR HAD JUST RECENTLY HAD A PROBLEM WITH THE TOTALIZING FLOWMETER FOR THE MINE WATER DISCHARGE AND THOUGHT THEY HAD GOTTEN IT FIXED. WHEN MR. ZOBELL AND I CHECKED IT IT WASN'T WORKING AGAIN AND MR. ZOBELL MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE IT REPAIRED.

Copy of this Report:
Mailed to: KIETH ZOBELL - UTAH FUEL CO. DONNA GRIFFIN - OSM
Given to: JOE HELFRICH & SUE LINNER - DOGM

Inspectors Signature and Number:

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Inspection Report
(continuation sheet)

Permit Number: ACT/007/005

Date of Inspection: 8/28/86

COMMENTS

4(c.) CONTINUED

THERE WAS NO INFLOW TO, NOR DISCHARGE FROM, THE MINE SITE SEDIMENT POND AT THE TIME OF MY INSPECTION. THE WATER LEVEL IN THE LOADOUT AREA SEDIMENT POND WAS DOWN TO THE LEVEL OF THE DECANT DEVICE AND THE OPERATOR HAD CLEANED SOME SEDIMENT FROM THE POND WHICH HAD FORMED DELTAS AT POND INLETS.

4(e) EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

NPDES DISCHARGE REPORTS WERE AVAILABLE THROUGH JUNE 1986 AND THERE WAS NO INDICATION THAT EFFLUENT LIMITS HAD BEEN EXCEEDED.

6) DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE AND SPOIL

THE OPERATOR HAS GRADED AND COMPACTED THE APPROXIMATELY 6,000 TONS OF WASTE THEY DISPOSED OF AT THE SUFFIELD WASTE ROCK SITE THIS SUMMER. THE OPERATOR APPEARED TO HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB OF BACKFILLING THE VENTS ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE PIT WITH INERT MATERIAL. IT SEEMS THAT ONCE THE VENTS ARE BACKFILLED NEW VENTS APPEAR ABOVE THE LEVEL OF THE PREVIOUS VENTS. THE VENTS WHICH WERE NOTED DURING MY 6/19/86 INSPECTION HAVE ALL BEEN BACKFILLED AND NEW VENTS SEEM TO HAVE FORMED ABOUT 5-6 FEET ABOVE THE PRESENT FILL LEVEL.

SINCE GRADING THE SITE SEVERAL MORE LOADS OF WASTEROCK MATERIAL HAVE BEEN DUMPED AT THE SOUTH END OF THE PIT. UPON CLOSER INSPECTION MR. SARVER AND I FOUND THAT ONE PILE WHICH HAD BEEN DUMPED IN THE EXTREME SW CORNER WAS WITHIN ONE FOOT OF A VENT. MR. SARVER AGREED TO HAVE THE PILE MOVED AND THE VENT DUG OUT AND BACKFILLED WITH INERT MATERIAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I ASKED HIM TO HAVE THE INFREQUENT TRUCK LOADS OF MATERIAL WHICH ARE BROUGHT DOWN DUMPED AGAINST THE EAST SIDE OF THE PIT TO AVOID THIS AND AVOID ANY POTENTIAL PROBLEMS.

THE ROAD UP TO THE SITE DOES NEED SOME GRADING WORK DONE THIS FALL IN ORDER TO PREPARE IT FOR SPRING SNOWMELT RUNOFF.

10) SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STORER COAL UNIT CONSTRUCTION THE OPERATOR IS GOING TO BUILD A RETAINING WALL ALONG THE TOP OF THE SLOPE WHERE THE SLOPE FAILURE OCCURRED THIS SPRING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF LOADOUT COAL SILOS.

Inspectors Signature, Number and Date: _____

Inspection Report
(continuation sheet)

Permit Number: ACT/001/005

Date of Inspection: 8/28/86

COMMENTS

14. Subsidence Control

Utah Fuel expects to commence longwall mining within the next six weeks in light of this the operator set up a subsidence grid this year which was flown on 8/12/86 to provide baseline data for the monitoring program. The operator was still in the process of surveying their subsidence monuments. Visual surveys of the potential subsidence areas will begin next year.

17. Other Transportation Facilities

Mr. Zobell and I inspected the drainage controls for the conveyor bench. The cut slopes of the bench are in good condition showing little sign of erosion because runoff on the slopes is spread out and vegetation is developing on the slope. The bench itself is sloped to the inside for the most part and is becoming fairly well vegetated and armored with rock. Most of the fill slope is becoming well vegetated except where there are rock outcrops and significant erosion occurring. In order to control the runoff from the bench the operator has attempted to concentrate the runoff and then divert it off the bench at several points. In some areas this has worked and in other areas this has caused erosion problems. There are 4-5 points along the bench where there is significant erosion on the fill slope. Most of the problem areas are between the lower well site and the second drainage down from the mine yard.

Mr. Zobell and I discussed whether it would be better to spread the water out more along the ~~[illegible]~~ fill slope or concentrate it to fewer points and try to divert it off the bench in a controlled manner. We decided to discuss the problem further with our respective co-workers and try to get one of the Division's Hydrologist down to look at it and make a recommendation as to how best to control the runoff in the problem areas.

18. Support Facilities and Utility Installations

The operator has started constructing the stoker coal unit. Mr. Sweiner and I went over the planned drainage controls for the area to make sure it will work out ok on-the-ground.

Inspectors Signature, Number and Date: [signature] #1 10/3/86

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