



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: May 11 and 12, 1988
9a.m. to 4p.m. and 8a.m. to noon

Permittee and/or Operators Name: Utah Fuel Company
Business Address: P.O. Box 719, Helper, Utah 84527
Mine Name: Skyline Mine Permit Number: ACT/007/005
Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Other
County: Carbon
Company Official(s): Keith Zobell and Bill Shriver
State Official(s): Harold G. Sandbeck
Partial: Complete: Date of Last Inspection: April 9, 1988
Weather Conditions: Clear and cool
Acreage: Permitted 4,834 Disturbed 75.9 Regraded Seeded Bonded 75.9
Enforcement Action: None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
1. PERMITS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE AND SPOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	<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"/>
c. SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. MAINTENANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES				
UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: May 11&12, 1988

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

General Comments. Keith Zobell and Bill Shriver accompanied the undersigned inspector on this complete inspection. General spring cleanup was in progress by the mine environmental ground crew. The inspection was conducted over a two day period. Ground conditions were dry, but wet in some areas of the mine site.

1. Permits. The Five Year Permit review is near completion. The Division is finalizing the deficiency comments which will be sent to the operator. The NPDES permit expired on June 30, 1987. The State Department of Health indicated that expired permits will remain in force until such time as a new permit can be reissued.

2. Signs and Markers:

Entrance Signs. The signs are current and contain the required information.

Perimeter Markers. Disturbed markers were seen and they adequately identify the disturbed boundary.

3. Topsoil. The topsoil stockpile located in the North Fork of Eccles Creek requires erosion protection on the south side of the stockpile. This rill erosion is a minor maintenance item.

4. Hydrologic Balance:

b. Diversions.

* In the March 22, 1988 inspection report, it was noted that an 18 inch culvert carrying disturbed area drainage from the upper mine pad to pond 001 became plugged with ice in the week prior to the March 22 inspection. In addition, the operator's remedial action was to divert the flow from the upper pad area down the slope through a section of flexible vent tubing to a collection ditch behind the ROM silo which leads into pond 001.

During the inspection, the undersigned inspector noted that the culvert was free of ice and functioning as designed. The remedial action, mentioned above, had been removed with minor dirt work in progress at the culvert inlet.

* The operator was informed that the collection ditch behind the ROM silo requires general cleaning. As mentioned above, this ditch was used to divert the upper pad drainage when the 18 inch culvert iced up.

* The ditches around the south fork coal storage area needs preventive maintenance. The ditches have been stable and appear functional.

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- * As stated in the November 18, 1987 inspection report "The operator has proposed the elimination of the undisturbed drainage ditches located at the mine portal area and the unit train loadout area. The operator and the Division have observed that these diversions have not seen any perceptible flow in them since their installation. The Division has incorporated this proposal into the review of the operations five year mining and reclamation plan." Also, during the five year permit review, the map labeling of "v-ditch" should be addressed. The MRP maps should differentiate between surface flow or "v-ditch".

c. Sediment Ponds and Impoundments:

Pond 001.

- * TDS values have been in excess of the NPDES limitations during the past quarter. The operator has sent letters informing State Health with copies of the letters to DOGM in accordance with the requirements of their NPDES permit. The operator has requested to State Health that the TDS limitation be increased from 700 to 850 mg/l. The NPDES permit for the Skyline Mine expired on June 30, 1987. Due to the backlog of permits and submittals at the State Department of Health, Skyline has been unable to receive a renewed permit.
- * The operator was informed that the south embankment of pond 001 requires minor preventive maintenance.

Pond 002.

- * On April 14, 1988, the operator detected a small leak and notified the Division. Remedial action included the temporary installation of a filter blanket and straw bales. The operator suspects that the pond's clay liner was damaged during cleaning last fall. A french drain underlies the pond which drains the silo pads northwest of the pond. The question arises as to the amount of discharge from the silo pads in combination with the pond leak.
- * On April 22, 1988, Division personnel, Randy Harden, Rick Summers and the undersigned inspector, visited the site to inspect the pond leak. The pond contained water and no evidence of pond instability was noted. No significant degradation of the undisturbed drainage was observed. The temporary installation of the filter blanket and straw bails was functioning well. Mike Hercomer with the State Department of Health has been contacted and informed of the pond leak. The operator committed to repair the pond leak as soon as possibly feasible.

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: May 11&12, 1988

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- * On May 11, 1988, the undersigned inspector conducted a complete inspection. The pond contained water and no evidence of pond instability or degradation to the environment was noted. The leak was sampled and the analysis does not exceed NPDES limitations. The analysis is provided below:

<u>ANALYSIS</u>	<u>RESULT AS RECEIVED</u>
TDS	642 mg/l
TSS	7.0 mg/l
SS	0.1 mg/l
Oil&Grease	2.0 mg/l
Iron	0.77 mg/l

d. Other Sediment Control Measures:

Straw Bales. Straw bales require preventive maintenance at the french drain in the north fork of Eccles Creek and south of the topsoil pile located at the train loadout. Controls are effective and function well.

Silt Fence.

- * The operator was informed to remove a silt fence located northeast of the substation at the train loadout. Vegetation is well established and controls are not required.
- * The operator requested the removal of a silt fence located west of the train load out structure. The undersigned inspector recommends removal of this silt fence. However, the operator needs to address this proposal in the five year permit review because the silt fence requires deletion from MRP maps.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Keith Zobell (Utah Fuel) and Brian Smith (OSM)

Given to: Joe Helfrich & Sue Linner - DOGM

Inspectors Signature and Number: Harold G. Sandbeck #27 Date: May 20, 1988