



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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GRZ

0002

INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: January 22 & 23, 1991
8:30am to 4:00pm; 8:00am to 11:30am

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Utah Fuel Company
Business Address: Helper, UT 84527 (801) 637-7925
Mine Name: SKYLINE MINE Permit Number: ACT/007/005
Type of Mining Activity: Underground x Surface Other
County: Carbon Company Official(s): Scott Robertson
Gary Peterson

State Officials(s): Priscilla Burton, Steve Demzak, Randy Harden
Federal Official(s): Jeff Zingo
Partial: Complete x Date of last Inspection: 1/16/91
Weather Conditions: Cold, Sunny
Acreage: Permitted 4,834 Disturbed 62.5 Regraded Seeded
Bonded 62.5 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)	()	()	()
b. DIVERSIONS	(x)	()	()	(x)
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	(x)	()	()	()
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	(x)	()	()	()
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	(x)	()	()	(x)
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	(x)	()	()	(x)
5. EXPLOSIVES	()	()	()	()
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE & SPOIL	(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)	()	()	()
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	(x)	()	()	()
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	(x)	()	()	()
13. REVEGETATION	(x)	()	()	()
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	(x)	()	()	()
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	(x)	()	()	()
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	(x)	()	()	()
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	(x)	()	()	()
c. SURFACING	(x)	()	()	()
d. MAINTENANCE	(x)	()	()	()
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	(x)	()	()	()
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES				
UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	(x)	()	()	()

1. **PERMITS** (records review, continued)

j. A chronology of blasting events and the blasters' certifications were checked. The Division took control of the blaster certification program in December 1990. Blaster certificate numbers (mailed 1/91) will replace the current use of social security numbers in the blaster records.

k. Jeff Zingo was interested in the Division's policy of Alternate Sediment Control Areas (ASCA's). He obtained xeroxed copies of the ASCA descriptions from the MRP.

l. Yet to be seen in the annual report is the sediment pond certification for pond 001 (Mine site) and subsidence monitoring information.

4.a. **DIVERSIONS**

Jeff Zingo expressed interest in the design of the French drain directing water from a spring (under the silo) to Eccles Creek, at the Train Load-Out (map 3.2.1-3). The steady flow of clear water passes over red and yellow precipitates at the exit of the drain. Jeff Zingo and Steve Demzak returned on the 23rd of January to take a sample of this water. This water was sampled prior to the construction of the silo, but is not sampled regularly. The adjacent French drain (CS 13) is a regular monitoring point.

4.e. **SURFACE AND GROUND WATER MONITORING**

Water monitoring reports were located in a binder that contained information from 1981 (baseline) to the present. Using these reports and Plate 2.3.6-1, we chose two above mine points CS 3 & 4 and a below mine point VC 6 for examination. The Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] and Sulfate [SO₄] concentrations for 1981, 1985, and 1990 are listed in the table on page four.

[SO₄] upstream of the mine has remained low over 10 years (less than 30 mg/L).

Above the minesite [TDS] has remained at approximately 250 mg/L at CS 3. But the [TDS] at CS 4 has quadrupled since 1981, rising to 233 mg/L [TDS].

Over time, [TDS] and [SO₄] have increased downstream of the mine at point VC 6. The 1990 [TDS] is approximately 1.5 times the 1981 [TDS] at point VC 6. The 1990 [SO₄] value is 15 times the 1981 [SO₄].

Further evaluation of increasing discharge from points along the stream leading to Scofield Reservoir would be worthwhile.

AVERAGE ANNUAL CONCENTRATIONS OF TDS & SO4
AT SELECTED POINTS UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM OF THE SKYLINE MINE
FOR THE YEARS 1981, 1985 & 1990

	CS 4 upper Left Fk Eccles Crk -	CS 3 upper Middle Fk of Eccles Crk	VC 6 Eccles Crk above confluence w/ South Fk
TDS mg/L			
1981	50	244	285
1985	183	247	244
1990	233	223	465
Sulfate mg/L			
1981	27	16	21
1985	14	13	90
1990	7	10	322

4.f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS:

The effluent limitation for [TDS] was raised by the State Dept of Health with the issuance of the current permit from a daily maximum of 700 mg/L to 1000 mg/L on 9/1/90.

Skyline Mine sent 12 letters of exceedence of TDS standards in 1990 and 2 letters in 1991 to date. The December 1990 letter included exceedence of the limitation on Total Fe. The most recent letters of exceedence (Jan 1991) were with regard to TDS and SO4 values and Total Iron concentration.

The State Department of Health has primacy in the issue of NPDES monitoring and permitting. The Division reviews monitoring reports but does not issue violations on exceedence.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Brian Smith - OSM, Keith Zobell - Utah Fuel

Given to: Daron Haddock - DOGM, Joe Helfrich - DOGM

Inspector's Signature & Number: Paivilla Burton #37 Date: 2/8/91