



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

2074  
Jah

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

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

## INSPECTION REPORT

0009

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: July 31, 1991  
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Permittee and/or Operator's 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 XX Surface Other  
County: Carbon Company Official(s): Keith Zobel  
State Officials(s): David Darby  
Partial: XX Complete      Date of last Inspection: June 15, 1991  
Weather Conditions: Cloudy, cool, minor precipitation  
Acreage: Permitted 4834 Disturbed 62.5 Regraded      Seeded       
Bonded 62.5 Enforcement Action: None

### COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

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

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 2 of 3

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: July 31, 1991

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permit

Current permitting action involves the review of two minor permit amendments to the Mining and Reclamation Plan. Keith Zobel mentioned that they (Skyline Mine) is currently working on the 5-year permit renewal that is due April of 1992.

4. Hydrology

c. Sedimentation Ponds

Skyline was in the process of cleaning the sedimentation pond at the loadout site. The dregs were loaded in trucks, which dumped the material at the permitted coal waste disposal site by Scofield, Utah.

e. Effluent Limitations

Skyline Mine has exceeded the NPDES limitations from their sedimentation pond over the past few months. Keith Zobel stated that they recognize the accedence and has been diligent in researching the cause. Chemical analyses have been conducted on the effluent which show high levels of calcium, sulfur, and Manganese. These constituents comprise the chemical makeup of the rock dust used in the No. 3 Mine for fire control. It was not known that the constituents would be soluble at the time the rock dust was applied. Skyline complied with their permit by notifying the Department of Health of their accedence.

On May 1, 1991 the Utah Division of Environmental Health (UDEH) sent Coastal States Energy Co. (Skyline Mine) a letter identifying violations in accedence levels of Total Dissolved solids over the past few months. A meeting was held on May 31, 1991 to develop measures to mitigate the accedence levels. The problem of rockdust leaching was pointed out to Steve McNeal of UDEH. In a phone conversation Steve stated that the accedence was of a concern, but he wanted to observe if the mitigation measures proposed by Skyline would reduce the TDS levels before taking enforcement action. Skyline has changed to a rockdust that contain low levels of sulfur and manganese.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to John Kathman-OSM, Keith Zobel-Skyline

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

Inspectors Signature & Number: *Daron Haddock* #18 Date: 8-9-91

**INSPECTION REPORT**

(Continuation sheet)

Page 3 of 3

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

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Steve pointed out that the TDS range of 250 mg/l above the limit was marginal and could be coped for a short period of time if mitigation measures eventually bring the levels down. I recommend that the TDS levels be monitored over the next few months and if they show no sign of lowering or increase that the operator be found in violation of not complying with their permit in maintaining the hydrologic balance.

14. Subsidence

On July 13, 1991 I met with Carter Reed, of the U.S. Forest Service and examined subsidence fractures on Skyline's property. The subsidence cracks were recent developments and appeared to be the result of horizontal tension from mining the No. 1 Mine. The cracks extended across one of the Forest Service access roads and down the slope for about 700 feet. They ranged in width from 2 to 6 inches and a depth of about 2 feet. Overburden is estimated to be about 1000 feet. The cracks appear to be of no hazard at this point in time. I suggest that this area be examined frequently to determine the cracks rate of healing or if more cracking takes place.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: John Kathman-OSM, Keith Zobel-Skyline

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

Inspectors Signature & Number:  #18 Date: 8-9-91



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Norman H. Bangerter  
Governor  
Suzanne Dandoy, M.D., M.P.H.  
Executive Director  
Kenneth L. Alkema  
Director

288 North 1460 West  
P.O. Box 16690  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-0690  
(801) 538-6121

May 1, 1991

*To: [unclear] [unclear]*  
*10/25/91*

# FILE COPY

# RECEIVED

AUG 12 1991

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Keith Welch  
Coastal States Energy Co.  
175 East 400 South, Suite 800  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

RE: NPDES Discharge Permit UT-0023540;  
The Frequent Exceeding of the TDS  
Effluent Limitation

Dear Keith Welch:

Coastal States has developed a pattern of regularly exceeding the permitted effluent limitation for TDS. When the permit was renewed in September 1990, the TDS effluent limitation was increased from 700 mg/L to 1000 mg/L on the condition that the average of TDS shall not exceed 723 mg/L for the year. The average maximum monthly value for TDS at Coastal States from August 1988 to July 1989 was 766 mg/L; for August 1989 to July 1990 it was 832 mg/L. From August 1990 to the present the average value for TDS is 1052 mg/L. The last five reported values for TDS have exceeded the 1000 mg/L limit. The latest reported value for TDS is also the highest value, 1431 mg/L. This demonstrates a definite upward trend. Since the permit renewal there has also been 4 reported analysis of sulfate exceeding the sulfate effluent limit in the new permit. We recognize that the sulfate problem is related to the TDS problem. Another problem is reported oil and grease analysis which have exceeded the effluent limitations significantly two times since the permit renewal.

Do you know what the problem is, or do you have an explanation for these results? What do you plan to do to come into compliance with your permit?

Sincerely,

Donald A. Hilden, Ph.D., Manager  
Permitting & Compliance Section  
Bureau of Water Pollution Control

DAH:hc

cc: Salt Lake City/County Health Dept.  
Region VIII EPA

S:NPDES  
FILE:COASTS.LTR

*Meeting was held 5/3/91  
They provided road test in March  
Soil was sampled for metals*