



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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

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## INSPECTION REPORT

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INSPECTION DATE & TIME: May 20, 1992  
09:00 - 17:00

Permittee and/or Operators Name: Utah Fuel Company/Skyline Coal Co.  
Business Address: P.O. Box 719; Helper, Utah 84527  
(801) 637-7925

Mine Name: SKYLINE MINE  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground  Surface  Other   
County: CARBON  
Company Official (s): Adrian Villar, Ken May  
State Official(s): Priscilla Burton, Jim Smith  
Partial: Complete:

Permit Number: ACT/007/005

Date of Last Inspection: February 26, 1992

Weather Conditions: cool, overcast, drizzle, sleet  
Acreage: Permitted 4834 Disturbed 65.33 Bonded 62.5  
Enforcement Action: N.O.V. 92-37-4-1

### 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. DIVERSIONS	( )	(x)	( )	(x)
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	(x)	( )	( )	( )
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	(x)	( )	( )	(x)
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	(x)	( )	( )	( )
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	( )	(x)	( )	(x)
5. EXPLOSIVES	(x)	( )	( )	( )
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)	( )	( )	(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)	( )	( )	(x)
18. UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	(x)	( )	( )	( )

The soils were saturated as it had rained the night previous to the inspection. We did not check the rain gauge during the inspection. At 11:30 a drizzle began, turning to sleet and back to rain in the afternoon, clearing by 14:30. Operator representatives indicated at 16:00 hours that the rain gauge had not been checked during the day of the inspection.

Mr. Villar accompanied us on the inspection, as Mr. Zobell was not available.

#### **1. PERMITS**

Coastal States Energy Co and Skyline Coal Co. received approval for permit renewal in a lengthy document dated 5/5/92.

Division Orders 92A and 92B were issued on 3/16/92 and a response containing plans was received on 4/15/92. Division Order 92B was approved 4/16/92. Utah Fuel Co. is waiting for approval of DO 92A. At the time of the inspection, work had begun on the gabion baskets which were proposed to support the slope above ditch DD#2 (Div Ord 92B).

Conditional approval of construction of the bent towers within the presently disturbed area was granted on 5/12/92. The drill rig was on site during the inspection. Cement foundations were being poured.

#### **4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE**

##### **a. Stream channel diversions**

Slopes of the North Fork channel are lined with the cement headwall from the previous diversion (flooded in 1982). These cement supports are outside of the disturbed area markers by approximately 15 feet (see CU#13 on Plate 3.2.1-1). These markers should be placed so that the cement is within the disturbed area. The cement will have to be removed or covered during final reclamation.

##### **b. Diversions**

Prior to walking the site, we looked at volume 5 and noted the typical ditch specifications for each area. DD-7 could not be found on Plate 3.2.1-1. Ditch DD-1 needs work to approximate the typical design. Ditch DD-6 needed to be brought up to the typical design. A swale was noted in the vicinity of DD-6 which was not indicated on Plate 3.2.1-1. Mr. Villar indicated that work on the ditches is ongoing and these two ditches would receive maintenance to bring them into the typical design. The swale at the entrance to the Waste Rock Site is in need of repair. Repeated travel by heavy trucks has made the swale non-functional. Mr. May indicated that this would be repaired. Deposition of waste material is ongoing in this second Quarter.

##### **d. Other Sediment Control Measures**

The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th silt fences from the top above CU-15 (Plate 3.2.1-1) on the east side of the topsoil pile were not properly anchored. Mr. Villar indicated that these repairs would be done. There appeared to be no imminent harm. These silt fences treat slope run-off and would serve to slow any potential overflow from CU#13.

At Area 17 of the loadout, strawbales were malfunctioning during the rain. Water enters the area below the conveyor underneath strawbales placed around the perimeter of the conveyor (BC13). The water follows a small gully through this area which is not vegetated and exits the disturbed area under strawbales along the chainlink fence of Area 17. The water was entering the roadside ditch. Photographs were taken of the area, the straw bales, the roadside ditch and the gully. The gully measured 10 x 10 inches at its widest point outside of the disturbed area. A sample of the water was collected into an Imhoff Cone. A settling test was conducted. At the end of the test, no settleable solids were noted. The water was black with suspended coal fines. A sample of the water was taken to Mountain States

analytical for analysis of TSS. A split of this water was given to the operator. NOV 92-37-4-1 has been issued for failure to maintain sediment control and failure to prevent to the extent possible additional contributions of sediment to stream flow or runoff outside the permit area.

**c. Effluent Limitations**

Samples were taken from UPDES point 001 at 15:00 hours. Field parameters were as follows: pH = 8.08, EC = 2,000 ummhos/cm, Temperature = 62°F. Sample bottles were taken to Mountain States for analysis of TDS, TSS, SO<sub>4</sub>, and Oil and Grease. Mr. May indicated that discharge is occurring from Mines #1 and #3. The high TDS water is not being diverted at this time (as per the abatement plan received in April). Representatives from Utah Fuel Co. were planning a meeting with DEQ concerning alternative abatement plans for reducing the TDS. This meeting was to be on 5/22/92. The abatement date for NOV 92-37-3-1 has been changed from 5/25/92 to 5/29/92 as a result of that meeting.

**11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION**

Straw bales were worn, but appeared to be performing their function at Middle Fork. This diversion was planted with willow transplants in the spring of 1991. No willows were evident at the site. A discussion with Mr. Zobell on 5/26/92 confirmed that willows were planted in 1991. Mr. Zobell will take a look at the survival of the transplants. Further planting may be necessary.

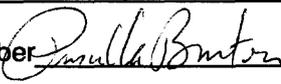
**10. TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES**

Work was beginning on the construction of bent towers. The docking station has not been constructed. Strawbale sediment control was in place for the conveyor bench.

Copy of this Report:

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

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

Inspectors Signature & Number  #37 Date: 5/26/92