

0030



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

Michael O. Leavitt  
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Partial: XXX Complete:      Exploration:       
Inspection Date & Time: 6/25/98 / 6:00a.m.-11:00p.m.  
Date of Last Inspection: 6/20/98

*gch*

Mine Name: Skyline Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/005  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Canyon Fuel Company  
Business Address: P.O. Box 719, Helper, Utah 84526  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface      Prep. Plant      Other       
Company Official(s): Gary Taylor  
State Officials(s): Stephen J. Demczak Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Clear, 60's  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7067.11 Disturbed- 62.08 Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded- 65.38  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-      Disturbed-      Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded-       
Status: Exploration/ XXX Active/ Inactive/ Temporary Cessation/ Bond Forfeiture  
Reclamation (     Phase I/      Phase II/      Final Bond Release/      Liability      Year)

### REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

#### Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
  - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) _____ (date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

**9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES**

There was a phone call by Gary Taylor left on my home recorder at approximately 5:00 p.m. on June 25, 1998. I listened to the message at approximately 6:30 p.m. the same day. The message stated that it was about the Skyline Mine and to call him at home. I called and a family member said he was traveling to Skyline Mine. I called the mine and talked to the surface foreman. He told me at 5:00 p.m. *management noted that Eccles Creek was blacked at the railroad loadout.* I then went up to Skyline Mine.

It was approximately 8:00 p.m. when I drove to the mine sediment pond at Skyline Mine. Gary Taylor was at the pond and an inspection of the culvert outlet was just made by the Dredging Company which is currently cleaning out the pond. The inspection was to go inside the culvert outlet of the pond and check for black sludge or a hole within the culvert. No evidence was found of a discharge of sludge from the pond. This pond is being cleaned out by a dredging company and the water level (slurry level) was several feet below the top of the outlet culvert.

The next step was to go to the outlet of the main bypass culvert at Eccles Creek and to denote the color of the water. It was clear; therefore, no material from the sediment pond or above the mine site was entering into Eccles Creek. The outlet (stand pipe) of the sediment pond enters into the 72 inch culvert.

I proceeded to check Whiskey Creek, this is the stream that White Oak Mining sediment ponds enter into. The water was crystal clear. The water was discolored just below the road to White Oak Mining in Eccles.

Management noted that three hours prior, that the water was blacked just below the pump house. Gary and I went to the pump house and the water was clear.

Throughout the Eccles Creek, only a small amount of coal fines were noted. These fines were more the size of B-B's.

Next was to go above the mine and inspect the water in Eccles Creek. The water was as clear as the water coming out of the 72 inch culvert from underneath the Skyline Mine.

Last area to investigate was the coal stock pile at the mine site. There was a possibility that coal could have been spilled from a cat operator into the stream, which is then sent to the culvert and then enters the 72 inch main by-pass culvert. No spills were noted around the stream or entrance to the culvert.

This culvert could have collapsed under the coal stockpile. This was the case in the early 80's. The mine permittee will go into the culvert in the morning to find out if this is the case.

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

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**FACTS:**

The permittee called ASAP to the Division when incident was noticed.

There is no evidence of a discharge from the stand pipe from the mine site pond.

The sediment pond was being cleaned out during the time of the incidence.

It was reported that the stand pipe was jolted, tapped, or vibrated during clean out around the stand pipe.

The slurry material from the sediment pond could make Eccles Creek black, if discharge occurred.

This black sludge did not come from White Oak.

This was a one time discharge of material.

Permittee needs to further investigate the culvert under the coal stock pile to see if it has collapsed.

It took approximately three hours to clear-up the water.

There was road maintenance being performed above the mine site by the state highway.

Only small B-B sized particles were in the stream intermittently.

**CONCLUSION -**

There is no hard evidence that proves the discharge into Eccles Creek came from Skyline mine. The evidence is only circumstantial.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Chris Hansen (Canyon Fuel) Henry Austin (OSM)  
Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office  
Date: June 26, 1998

Inspector's Signature:  #39  
Stephen J. Demczak