



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

0074

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## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial:      Complete: **XX** Exploration:       
Inspection Date & Time: 06/21/00 9:30 am to 3:00 pm  
Date of Last Inspection: 05/16/00

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 XX Surface      Prep. Plant      Other       
Company Official(s): Gary Taylor, Dan Mills, and Chris Hanson  
State Officials(s): Mike Suflita Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Clear, warm, & sunny. All of the snow has melted on the site.  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 6,509.95 Disturbed- 73.63 Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded- 70.08  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-      Disturbed-      Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded-       
Status:      Exploration/ **XX** 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. SIGNS AND MARKERS   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. TOPSOIL   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:   |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
| a. DIVERSIONS  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. WATER MONITORING  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. EXPLOSIVES  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES                        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. NONCOAL WASTE   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. REVEGETATION   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. ROADS:   |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
| a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES                              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____ (date)         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21. BONDING & INSURANCE  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: 06/21/00

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

**1. PERMIT**

The Permitted, Disturbed, and Bonded Areas in this report are new figures as developed by the Division. Skyline Mine personnel are expected to confirm or revise these figures in the near future. Midterm Review response deadline has been extended to 07/23/00. Mine personnel have met with the Division regarding the midterm response. Work is proceeding and should be submitted next week.

The Operator is expecting to submit an amendment for a 460 acre Incidental Boundary Change designated the UP&L tract. This is to the south of the existing mine. This is now a hot item since their production schedule counts on them proceeding with this addition. Water monitoring in the area has been underway since 1992 in James Canyon, for 2 ½ years at a spring, and for 1 ½ year at a monitoring well.

The swale removal amendment has been reviewed and the mine should get a copy early next week. There will be another minor amendment to remove silt fences along the conveyor belt in the future.

**2. SIGNS AND MARKERS**

Perimeter markers are now visible.

**3. TOPSOIL**

Both topsoil piles are in good condition. An animal had rooted away some vegetation at the loadout pile, but this should heal naturally. This has been a dry year and no recovery is evident yet. No erosion is evident either.

**4a. DIVERSIONS**

The dent in the top of the outlet of the main minesite culvert has been fixed. Similarly, the large rock in the stream at the same location has been removed. The outlet flows freely now. The rocks that were obstructing the square culvert near the coal silo have all been removed and it flows freely now. These were maintenance items from a previous inspection.

All diversion ditches have been graded and some had a small flow of water in them. In general, all ditches and culverts are in good condition. The one exception is the 18-inch culvert leading to the main culvert in which mineral deposits are partially blocking flows. This will be taken care of.

**4b. SEDIMENT PONDS**

The main sediment pond was discharging. Its sediment load is considerable and it needs the scheduled cleaning out. Bids for the cleanout have been received and some work still needs to be done on fees for the disposal of the removed material. The work is expected to be done next month, July. The load-out sediment pond water level was below the discharge level. The waste rock sediment pond had no water and some sediment was evident in the upper end.

Work has begun on the sediment trap west of the main minesite sediment pond. This is an approved amendment to reduce sediment loading of the main pond.

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: 06/21/00

**4c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES**

The three rows of straw bales and silt fences at the lower end of the UDOT pad snow storage area have been completely removed and replaced. The entire pad area has been graded as well. Installation used MRP-approved methods of embedding the straw into the ground and staking them to prevent movement. The silt fence material is buried under and behind the straw bales. This appears to be a fine job that should last for several years.

**4d. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports were checked for the last three months for all three discharge points and found to be within limits.

**5. EXPLOSIVES**

The two steel houses for storing the explosives and the detonator caps were locked and grounded. Both ends of the ground cables are firmly attached, one end to a grounding rod and the other to the house. The new sediment trap west of the sediment pond had been blasted out of rock. There was no damage to the mine building next to the site.

**8. NONCOAL WASTE**

The site has been cleaned up very well. The debris left from melting snow has been removed and the whole site looks really good. No spills had left the containment area of the oil storage building. The containment area was also cleaned.

Canyon Fuels sent a letter to the Division on May 18, 2000 informing us of their intent to abandon 28 longwall panels underground. On May 26, 2000 the Forest Service sent a letter to the Division indicating their objections and agreement to leaving only 3 shields. During this inspection Chris Hanson informed me of the removal of 25 of the shields, leaving 3 underground. The removed shields were at the site near the sediment pond.

**13. REVEGETATION**

The seeding along the berms on the north and west edges of the coal pile in the loadout area has not been successful. This has been a dry winter and spring and the seed was not raked in or provided with any soil cover. There appeared to be no germination. Perhaps with July and August thunderstorms some will grow.

**16. ROADS**

All roads were graded and in good condition. Some water was running in ditches.

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/005

DATE OF INSPECTION: 06/21/00

**19. AVS CHECK**

An AVS check was run on 6/23/00 and "There were no violations retrieved by the system."

**20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT**

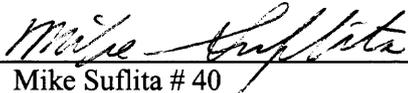
The permit is posted at the main building entrance and is still current. Permit No. DAQE -227-98.

**21. BONDING AND INSURANCE**

The Certificate of Insurance is complete. The policy expires on 7/31/00. The Reclamation Agreement is still in force. The bond amount is \$3,180,000, however, it is in process of increasing to \$5,076,000. They will use a new bonding company and the paperwork is being signed by Dick Pick in the near future.

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

Mailed to: Dan Meadors (Canyon Fuel)  
James Fulton (OSM)  
Given to: Daron Haddock (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature:  Date July 11, 2000  
Mike Suflita # 40

sm  
cc: Price Field Office  
O:\007005.SKY\Compliance\2000\C\_0621.wpd