

May 25, 1978

Memo to File:

Re: ACT/007/006
Star Point Mines
Plateau Mining Company
Carbon County, Utah

This mine was inspected by Ron Daniels and Mike Thompson on April 24, 1978 in the company of Plateau Mining Company employees Steve Rigby and E.A. Shaw. The purpose of this inspection was to clarify to Plateau the Division's interpretation of pre-existing non-conforming structure and facilities under the scope of P.L. 95-87 as they are located on this mining property.

All areas and phases of the mining operation were visited during the inspection. These included the portals for the Star Point #1 and #2 mines, the load-out facility, haul and access roads, coal stockpile near the old Wattis townsite, coal waste dumps near Wattis, and a proposed sediment pond location.

Only one structure or facility was found to be pre-existing and in non-conforming with the Surface Mining and Control Act of 1977, this is the access and haul road to the Star Point #1 portal and truck load-out. The road grade is steeper than the standards for same as set forth in Section 717. Plateau planned on demonstrating at a May 3rd hearing that it was physically impossible to bring this road into compliance.

The road is located on very steep slopes of approximate 50% to 70% and is on a north-facing aspect. Snow melts slowly on this slope, thus work has been very difficult to perform this year.

Some guidance was provided to Plateau in locating sediment control structures for all of their operation in the Wattis area. Due to the complexity of the location of the surface facilities, including roads, the load-out, railroad lines, waste piles and coal stockpiles it was suggested that the total drainage basin in which all the facilities are located be impounded and settled to collect the sediment.

An area just below the coal stockpile was inspected as a possible sediment collection point. This site however, is located on land which is administered by the BLM. The BLM will be asked to cooperate in issuing a special land use permit for the sediment collection facility.

No sediment ponds on collection facilities presently are located anywhere on the Star Point mine operation.

RONALD W. DANIELS
COORDINATOR OF MINED
LAND DEVELOPMENT



CC: OSM-Denver