

ACT/007/006

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United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
POST OFFICE BLDG. RM. 270  
1823 STOUT STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

July 27, 1979



Ron Daniels  
Coordinator of Mined Land Development  
Department of Natural Resources  
1588 N. West Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

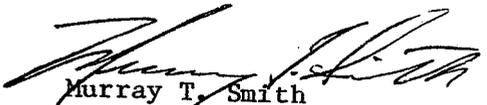
Dear Mr. Daniels:

Enclosed please find copies of on-site inspection reports. The inspections were conducted within Starpoint #2 Mine during the period of July 11, 1979.

*File*

If you have any questions or problems, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

  
Murray T. Smith  
Federal Lands Coordinator

*Silo*

REGION V ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY  
STARPOINT #2 MINE  
P.O. Box 539  
Price, Utah 84501

<u>DATE:</u>	July 11, 1979
<u>TIME:</u>	9:30 A.M.
<u>WEATHER:</u>	Sunny, hot, and clear
<u>COUNTY &amp; STATE:</u>	Carbon County, Utah
<u>COMPANY OFFICIALS:</u>	Steve Rigby, Mining Engineer Mike Dmitrich, Public Affairs Michael Thompson
<u>STATE OFFICIAL:</u>	Larry Damrau and Eileen Doherty
<u>OSM OFFICIAL:</u>	
<u>NOV NUMBER:</u>	79-V-3-28

GENERAL COMMENTS

On January 9, 1979, the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining along with the Region V OSM in Denver, conducted an inspection of the Starpoint #1 and 2 Mines. Ten violations were cited by the Division as a result. The original notifying letter of January 31, 1979, gave a 60 day abatement period for these violations. On June 26, 1979, the Utah Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining found that the Plateau Mining Company had satisfactorily abated five (5) of the ten (10) violations. Upon returning to the Starpoint #2 Mine on July 11, 1979, the OSM representatives reviewed the areas for which violations had been issued. Of the five which were considered unabated by the State Board, three have been allotted specific time limits and specific guidelines for affecting abatement. The remaining two violations concern the upper waste disposal site. The site is not approved by the Division or OSM and not certified as being constructed in accordance with regulatory design criteria.

The Board has required submission by the company of certifications verifying design compliance with MC717.15, MSHA approvals, culvert adequacy for surrounding watershed, permanent drainage plans for after abandonment, and abandonment configurations of the site. An abatement time period was not assigned to these two violations by the Board.

NOV Number 79-V-3-28 was issued on July 11, 1979, for a "failure to dispose of spoil within permit area or in an area approved by the regulatory authority." Remedial action required submission of the information requested by the State Board meeting of June 26, 1979, as stated above. The date by which the information must be submitted to the Board is August 7, 1979.

The sequence of events planned for operations from the Lion Portal will involve use of an underground silo, and a conveyor belt below the silo. A 50'x 200'+ hole will be dug in the upper pad. Coal from the upper seam will be loaded into the 50,000 ton capacity silo, which will then load a conveyor belt directly beneath it. This belt runs over a fill area presently being constructed by the company. Significant drainage factors are being discussed with the State and OSM,

as per violations referred to in Notice of Violation Number 79-V-3-28 and the State Board meeting of June 26, 1979.

Coal is conveyed to a tipple and washed before being loaded for off-site transportation. An access road is proposed to enter the Lion Portal Deck from the east side at a 10% sustained grade. A BLM 1/16 Section is concerned in this construction and approval from the State and the OSM is pending before work commences. The State Regulatory Authority is requiring a certified statement of safety factors and extent of environmental damages involved with this road proposal before approval can be given. Mr. Rigby expressed concern over obtaining a static safety factor certification prior to road construction due to the heterogeneous nature of the soils in the canyon.

The presently unabated violations issued by the State of Utah and the July 11, 1979 NOV from the OSM in Denver will be inspected for abatement efforts upon completion of the abatement period indicated by the Utah Board and OSM.



LARRY DORA  
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST