

December 2, 1981

Inspection Memo  
to Coal File:

RE: Bishopsgate Coal Corp.  
Winter Quarters Canyon  
Coal Exploration  
Drill Sites 81-5-2 and  
81-5-1B  
CEP/007/006  
Carbon County, Utah

On October 27, 1981, Division Inspector David Lof visited the above-mentioned drill sites in response to a citizen's complaint which was received by the Division on October 26, 1981. Mr. Lof was accompanied on the inspection by Mr. Byron Bond, an employee of Bishopsgate Coal Company.

Drill hole #81-5-2 is located on the south side of Winter Quarters Canyon access road. The site had been recontoured with the exception of the mud pits and associated fill materials; the operator had also fenced off the area. Mr. Bond informed the inspector that drilling operations had ceased at this site approximately two months beforehand. Due to the fact that the mud pits still remained two months after exploration activities had ceased and UMC 815.15(d) requires that exploration sites be recontoured to the approximate original contours promptly after completion of exploration activities, Notice of Violation #N81-4-5-2, #2 of 2 was written:

Nature of the Violation:

Failure to return to approximate original contour those excavations, artificial flat areas and embankments created during exploration promptly after such features are no longer needed for coal exploration.

Provision of the Regulations, Act or Permit Violated:

UMC 815.15(d).

Portion of the Operation to Which Notice Applies:

Drill hole #81-5-2 site, the mud pits and associated fill materials.

Remedial Action Required:

- A. Pump fluids out of pits and dispose of as discussed in Bishopsgate's general exploration plan or in another manner which must first be approved by the Division.
- B. Backfill mud pits and recontour to approximate original contours.

Time for Abatement:

Seven days; no later than November 12, 1981.

Drill hole #81-5-1B is located on the north side of Winter Quarters Canyon access road. This is the drill hole which the Town of Scofield is considering developing as a source of culinary water for the community. In a letter from the Town of Scofield to the Division dated October 6, 1981, the City Council informed the Division of their intentions to test the water quality of the well and requested that Bishopsgate Coal Corporation be allowed to postpone the reclamation of the hole until Scofield can arrange for testing of the well. In an October 21, 1981, letter from the Division to the Scofield City Council, the Division informed Scofield that there were no objections to the testing and subsequent delayed reclamation of the well drilled by Bishopsgate Coal Corporation. The City Council was also informed that if transfer of the well was desired, that approval must be obtained from both the Division of Water Rights and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. The request to Oil, Gas and Mining should be a joint request from the Town of Scofield and the surface owner of the land. Furthermore, it should be understood that Bishopsgate Coal Corporation will remain responsible for the site until the transfer of the well is approved.

At the time of the inspection, it was found that the overland flow diversion ditch, and the berms and ditches necessary to control runoff from the disturbed area were nonexistent. Therefore, NOV N81-4-5-2, #1 of 2 was written:

Nature of the Violation:

Failure to prevent erosion and additional contributions of suspended solids to stream flow or runoff outside the exploration area.

Provision of the Regulations, Act or Permit Violated:

UMC 815.15(c)(3), UMC 815.15(g) and UMC 815.15(j).

Portion of the Operation to Which the Notice Applies:

Drill hole #81-5-1B, entire site.

Remedial Action Required:

Implement drainage control measures to divert undisturbed area runoff away from the exploration site. Retain or treat disturbed area runoff in order to prevent erosion and contribution of suspended solids to stream flow and runoff outside the exploration area.

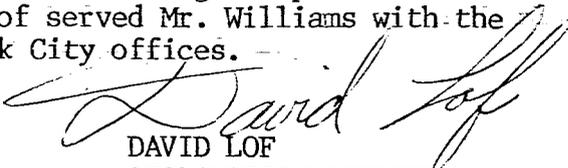
Time for Abatement:

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Also noted during the inspection, was the fact that both mud pits still contained drilling fluids in them. Mr. Bond explained the mud pits would be needed when the well testing is conducted.

Due to the fact that the inspector was in the field until October 30, he was not able to contact Mr. Williams of Bishopsgate Coal Corporation until Monday, November 2, 1981. During the phone conversation with Mr. Williams, he confirmed that the drilling operations at 81-5-2 had been completed on approximately October 6. He also explained that due to the nature of the drilling fluids, more time was needed for the suspended solids to settle out. Therefore, the mud pits had not been reclaimed as of yet. Mr. Williams was asked if he was aware of the regulation requiring prompt recontouring of exploration sites and he stated that he was. However, he had failed to notify the Division of the problem or to address the potential problem in his general exploration plan which had been submitted to and approved by the Division. The violations were discussed with Mr. Williams during the phone conversation and again on November 4, 1981, when Mr. Lof served Mr. Williams with the Notices of Violation at Bishopsgate's Park City offices.

  
DAVID LOF  
RECLAMATION OFFICER

cc: Tom Ehnnett, OSM  
Scott Williams, Bishopsgate Coal

DL/btb

Statistics:

Vehicle: #EX 70237--707 miles  
Per Diem: One person X 3 days, 7 hours @ \$37.50/day = \$130.56  
Grant: A & E