

Document Information Form

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To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: APRIL 1, 1981

Explanation:

MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
C/007, 006, Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

April 1, 1981

Memo to Coal File:

RE: Plateau Mining Company
Starpoint #1 & 2
ACT/007/006
Carbon County, Utah

The above-mentioned operation was given a partial inspection on March 26, 1981, by Tom Portle and Joe Helfrich from the Division. State inspectors were accompanied by Ben Grimes, mine engineer at the Plateau Mine Complex.

General Comments

The intent of this meeting with Mr. Grimes was to conduct a complete inspection of the surface facilities. However, due to time constraints, partial inspection of the operator's permits and records was conducted. Interim approval was granted by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining on July 22, 1977. Signs at the entrance to the permit area were clearly visible and contained all required information. Additional surveying to determine proper surface ownership resulted in the application of the following right-of-ways.

- A. BLM power line.
- B. Refuse extension.
- C. Amendment to existing right-of-way on the line deck road.

Legal descriptions of these areas are provided in the enclosure. NPDES discharge permit covering seven point sources, expired on December 31, 1980. Authorization to continue was issued by EPA on December 23, 1980. This authorization allowed the permittee to continue discharging until a new permit could be issued. The slurry generated by discharge from the wash plant discharges directly into the Wattis South or #5 sediment pond. Present sizing of this sediment pond is inadequate. The permanent plan for runoff and sediment control contains the design criteria for seven sediment ponds which have been calculated to adequately contain precipitation from the 10-year, 24-hour event. Additional catch basins, approximately seven, have been constructed throughout the permit area to reduce erosion and sediment yield.

According to Mr. Grimes, there has not been a breakout in Seely Canyon as of yet. In reference to stipulation #7 on the Seely Canyon breakout, the nesting study is slated to begin in the spring of 1981.

The waste rock generated in the construction of the vertical shaft used for coal transport was used as fill material for the lower line deck pad, known as the rock tunnel pad. The use of waste rock as a durable fill should be closely review for performance standards of the permanent regulatory program.

conducted on the affected area. The program will include maps to depict any movement of waste rock. record any additional information.

File in:
 Confidential
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 Expandable
Refer to Record No. 0011 Date _____
In C/ 007, 006, Internal
For additional information

ng is presently being
bsidence monitoring
as using photogrammetry
every six months, to

April 1, 1981

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The waste rock generated in the construction of the vertical shaft used for coal transport was used as fill material for the lower line deck pad, known as the rock tunnel pad. The use of waste rock as a durable fill should be closely review for compliance with the performance standards of the permanent regulatory program. No blasting, backfilling or regrading is presently being conducted on the affected surface area. The proposed subsidence monitoring program will include annually flyover of the affected areas using photogrammetry to depict any movement and two on-site inspections, one every six months, to record any additional physical evidence of subsidence.

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The Division's Inspection and Enforcement staff is presently reviewing the surface and ground water monitoring data of the Plateau Mine. During the inspection, no data was available for either surface or ground water monitoring points from October 1980 to the present. Mr. Grimes indicated that all the monitoring points were either dry or inaccessible. The inspectors felt that inaccessibility required additional justification. The approval of the new conveyor system leading from the rock tunnel pad to the stacking tube above the wash plant was also questioned by members of the Division. The Inspection and Enforcement staff is presently reviewing the Plateau files to determine:

1. The approval status on the existing conveyor structure and supportive data to determine whether or not the structure is blocking a known or existing migration pattern of deer, elk or other mammals.

An additional memo addressing the hydrologic monitoring data and the status of the conveyor system will be forthcoming.


JOSEPH C. HELFRICH
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECILAIST

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM

JCH/btm

Statistics:

See C.V. Spur memo dated March 31, 1981.