

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C1007/006

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: NOVEMBER 21, 1983

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE

cc:

File in: C1 007, 006, Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

November 21, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Plateau Mining Company
Star Point Mines
ACT/007/006, Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

DATE: June 15, 16 & 17, 1983
TIME: 1:45-5:05 p.m.; 8:30 a.m.-4:20 p.m.; and 9:00-11:30 a.m.,
respectively
WEATHER: Mostly sunny and warm
COMPANY OFFICIALS: Ben Grimes
STATE OFFICIALS: David Lof

Compliance With Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

The following mining permits and approvals were available for review in the operator's mine office:

1. An October 1, 1981 letter from the Division approving the Refuse Waste File, seven stipulations were attached to this approval. The operator has met the requirements of all the stipulations with the exception of Stipulation 9-22-3. This stipulation has to do with the depth to which topsoil needs to be redistributed on the refuse disposal pile in order to successfully reclaim the area. Pursuant to this stipulation, an extensive test plot program was designed (June 2, 1982 letter to the operator from the Division.) to test various depths of topsoil distributed on refuse. At the time of this inspection, the operator had failed to provide the Division with any information regarding the test plot program, i.e., an exact account of what was implemented in the field and any information thus far gleaned from the test plots, such as data on germination, establishment and seedling survival. Division Soils Scientist Tom Portle, is currently working with the operator in order to obtain this information.
2. A January 21, 1982 letter from OSM, approving the operator's Mining and Reclamation Permit (MRP), eleven special stipulations were attached to this approval letter. At the time of this inspection Stipulations 6, 7, and 10 were outstanding. Stipulation #6 deals with topsoil redistribution methods. Stipulation #7 deals with Sediment Ponds #1, #3, #5 and #8 and a description of the measures to be taken in order to bring them into compliance with UMC 817.46(m). Stipulation

File in:
 Confidential
 Shelf
 Expandable
Refer to Record No 0004 Date _____
In C/ 007, 006, Internal
For additional information _____

#10 deals with seed mixtures, the density and composition of woody plant species, planting and vegetative monitoring data.

3. A January 27, 1982 letter from the Division granting approval of the operator's MRP with the condition that all stipulations and conditions listed in the OSM approval be met.
4. A June 15, 1982 letter from the Division granting conditional approval of the operators minor modification to the Refuse Pile Extension Plan, attached to this approval were 9 stipulations. At the time of this inspection the operator still needed to complete the response to Stipulation 6-14-82-4 (LK). This stipulation deals with a vegetation reference area for the soil stockpile area and the vegetative data which was to be gleaned from the reference area.
5. A November 19, 1982 letter from the Division approving the phased development of the Corner Canyon Breakouts.
6. A June 9, 1983 letter from the Division approving the installation of the upper and lower debris-protection fences, for the Corner Canyon Breakouts.
7. A June 15, 1983 letter from the Division granting final approval of the Corner Canyon ventilation facilities. Attached to the approval were four conditions.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

A complete mine identification sign was posted as required.

No perimeter markers were evident at the Mudwater Breakouts. The operator was asked to have markers posted prior to the next monthly inspection. At the time of the inspection the operator was installing the fence around the perimeter of the Corner Canyon Breakout area.

A topsoil sign was posted on the subsoil stockpile as required.

UMC 817.21-.25 Topsoil

Vegetation was coming in very well on the subsoil stockpile which was

Inspection Memo to Coal File
ACT/007/006, Folder No. 7
November 22, 1983
Page 3

seeded last fall. Some minor erosion was occurring along the roadway on the southeast side of the stockpile, the operator committed to installing water bars along the roadway.

UMC 817.41-.52 Hydrologic Balance

Mudwater Breakouts

Some maintenance work needs to be done along the perimeter of the Mud-water Breakout pad, most of the work consists of replacing straw bales. The vegetation was coming in very well along the perimeter of the pad, this will help to stabilize the pad and filter the disturbed area runoff from the pad.

Lion Deck

The undisturbed diversion inlets appeared to be adequately maintained. While inspecting the undisturbed diversion I discussed with the operator the possibility of having undisturbed diversion drop inlets at the base of each draw, where water would potentially concentrate as it comes off the undisturbed area above, and eliminating the undisturbed diversion which runs along the base of the high wall. The reason for this is that the diversion is a constant maintenance problem due to the sloughage of materials off the highwall.

A more permanent berm needs to be constructed along the undisturbed diversion behind the shop building.

The ponding of disturbed area runoff on the south end of the Lion Deck, along the outside edge of the pad, has been discussed as an area of concern numerous times before. I discussed with the operator the need to regrade this area in order to insure that there is free flowing drainage. The operator committed to bringing the area to the proper grade to insure adequate drainage.

Mine #1 Area

An inspection of Sediment Pond #3 showed it to be adequately maintained. The disturbed area runoff diversion which conveys runoff from the portal pad area above had been maintained in order to control erosion and to prevent short-circuiting of the sediment pond.

Sediment Pond #2

The strawbales which had been located at the outlet of Sediment Pond # 2 have been replaced with a straw filter consisting of a fence across the outlet with loose straw placed against it.

Inspection Memo to Coal File
ACT/007/006, Folder No. 7
November 22, 1983
Page 4

Since the last monthly inspection the operator has done a great deal of maintenance work along the undisturbed and disturbed area diversion systems on the south side of the overland conveyor, west of Sediment Pond #2 as requested. Culvert joints have been sealed and berms, diversions, and culvert inlets maintained as needed.

Refuse Pile Area

During the winter of 1982-83 there was some cat work done to separate undisturbed Diversion No.6 and disturbed area runoff Diversion No.12 where they run parallel to one another, just south of the stacking tube. I discussed with the operator the need to regrade and seed this area this fall.

Diversion Ditch No.6B was in need of maintenance, a great deal of sloughage had occurred along the ditch displacing materials from the cut slope into the diversion. This kind of problem is probably going to be reoccurring for a number of seasons due to the placement of the diversion on a relatively steep slope, and the nature of the material. Several low areas along the diversion need to be regraded so that the diversion does not short circuit, the operator committed to maintaining the diversion prior to the next monthly inspection.

The disturbed area runoff diversion which is located along the south side of the refuse area, from Sediment Pond #5 to the basin above Sediment Pond #6, was in very good shape except for one small area, approximately midway between the pond and the sediment basin.

The sediment basin located immediately above the Sediment Pond #6 had just recently been cleaned out by the operator.

UMC 817.52 Surface and Ground Water Monitoring

On March 23, 1982, the operator was issued NPDES Permit UT-0023736 which expires on December 31, 1986. The receiving waters for the permit are Midwater and Serviceberry Creeks. Monitoring data for the first quarter of 1983 indicated that there had not been a discharge from any of the 7 points covered by the permit.

Mr. Grimes showed me a letter to EPA dated May 4, 1983 concerning the leaking of the decant structures for Sediment Ponds #4, #5, and #6. The operator had data available from samples taken from Sediment Ponds #5, and #6. All parameters appeared to be acceptable except for TDS which appeared to be high. Mr. Grimes was told that he should notify EPA of the noncompliance with their NPDES permit and I suggested that he call Steve McNeal of State Health.

Inspection Memo to Coal File
ACT/007/006, Folder No. 7
November 22, 1983
Page 5

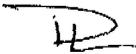
The operators surface and groundwater monitoring program calls for quarterly sampling of all monitoring sites. Monitoring data was available through May of 1983 with the exception of some sites which were inaccessible. Mr. Grimes indicated that he was going to sample in June those sites which had been inaccessible in May.

UMC 817.89 Disposal of Non-Coal Waste

The non-coal waste storage area south of the Lion Deck has been a topic of discussion during many inspections.. The design at the time of this inspection lent the area to several maintenance problems. Mr. Grimes and I agreed that a much simpler design would help to eliminate many of the problems in the area. The design we discussed was the sloping of the entire area to the drop drain along the road and filtering the runoff from the area at this point. The operator committed to submitting plans modifying their present design prior to the next monthly inspection.

General Comments

All three breakouts in Corner Canyon have been completed, they have been done in a very workman-like manner and no materials have been dumped out onto the slopes below. All the trees located in the area proposed for the fan had been cut down and removed from the site. In general the operator did a very good job of effecting as little area as necessary.


DAVID LOF
OIL, GAS AND MINING
FIELD SPECIALIST

DL/re

cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM
Ben Grimes, Pleateau
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics:

See Hiawatha Mine Memo dated October 19, 1983