Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/006

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: MAY 2, 1983

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE

cc:

File in:
C/ 007 , 006 , Internal
Refer to:
- ☐ Confidential
- ☐ Shelf
- ☐ Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

May 2, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

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

On April 14, 1983 the above mentioned operation was given a partial inspection by Division Inspector David Lof. He was accompanied on the inspection by Ben Grimes, Environmental Coordinator for Plateau Mining Company (PMC).

While inspecting sediment pond #6 which is located east of the coal refuse pile we found that the top portion of the dewatering device (the oil skimmer/trash rack and approximately top 3 feet of riser) had come off the dewatering device riser and was laying to its side. The level of the water in the sediment pond was such that it was overtopping the riser, in its present condition, by approximately 1 inch. Fortunately the water control gate was closed allowing no discharge of water from the sediment pond via the dewatering device. We speculated that the top portion of the dewatering device may have been lifted off of the riser by the ice which had formed on the pond during the winter. Mr. Grimes had the section reinstalled on the riser while I was still on-site.

While inspecting the sediment pond's discharge structures we found that the emergency spillway was leaking and that the sediment pond was discharging at a rate of approximately 5 gallons per minute. A visual inspection of the discharge did not raise concern for failure to meet effluent limitations however, samples were taken of the discharge so that the quality of the sediment pond discharge could be ascertained.

During a phone conversation with Mr. Grimes on April 28, 1983, he said that in order to repair the leak in the spillway that they would wait for snowmelt runoff to cease. Then once proper settling time was allowed, to insure compliance with effluent limitations, they would pump the water from the pond to bring the water level down so that they could work on the spillway. Mr. Grimes also informed me that during an inspection of PMC's other sediment ponds by PMC employees they found that sediment ponds #4 and #5 are also leaking and that they plan to take the same course of action with those ponds in order to repair them. PMC is required to have approval from the Division in order to pump the water from the sediment ponds. The operator should contact Division Hydrologist, Wayne Hedberg, prior to pumping the water from the ponds in order to discuss their methodology, and sampling requirements for the water to be discharged.

The undisturbed drainage diversion and disturl

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Refer to Record No 0009 Date_____
In C/ 007, 006, Internal
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The undisturbed drainage diversion and disturbed area runoff diversion on

the south side of the coal car storage area, west of the preparation plant, were both in need of maintenance. The disturbed area runoff diversion which is located above and south of the undisturbed diversion on the hillside was filled with sediment rendering it useless. You could see where disturbed area runoff had left the diversion and entered the undisturbed diversion below. The disturbed area runoff diversion was designed to control runoff from under the conveyor, which goes from the coal stacking tube to the preparation plant. The berm along the north side of the undisturbed diversion was broken down in several places so that disturbed area runoff from the coal car storage area could enter it. Because of this Notice of Violation N83-4-5-1 was issued, it reads as follows:

Nature of the Violation

Failure to maintain sediment control measures in order to prevent to the extent possible additional contributions of sediment to streamflow or to runoff outside the permit area. Failure to pass all surface drainage from the disturbed area through a treament facility prior to leaving the permit area.

Provisions of the Regulations, Act or Permit Violated

UCA 40-10-18 (2)(i)(ii), UMC 817.41 (d), UMC 817.42 (a)(1), UMC 817.43 (c) and UMC 817.45.

Portion of the Operation to Which Notice Applies

The undisturbed and disturbed area runoff diversions on the south side of the railroad car holding area, west of the preparation plant.

Remedial Action Required

Maintain the diversions so that the integrity of the undisturbed runoff is insured.

Time for Abatement

30 days from date of receipt.

The violation was issued on April 19, 1983 and received by the operator on April 25, 1983, therefore the abatement deadline is May 25, 1983.

While reviewing the operator's approved Mining and Reclamation Plan particularly Plate 7-8 entitled, "Surface Runoff Facilities and Sediment Control Plan for the Plateau Mine", I found that the disturbed area runoff diversion discussed above is not included as part of the approved mine plan. Instead Plate 7-8 shows a one foot berm along the north side of the conveyor which conveys the runoff to a drop inlet, which conveys the runoff down to the preparation plant pad. During our April 28 phone conversation Mr. Grimes said that after our inspection he had looked at the berm and found that it was badly in need of maintenance. He said that the berm would be maintained in accordance with their approved mine plan as part of the abatement for NOV N83-4-5-1. He also confirmed that the disturbed area runoff diversion is not

part of their approved plan. As far as the disturbed area runoff diversion is concerned the operator should either modify their approved plan to include the diversion and maintain that diversion properly or, reclaim it in accordance with UMC 817.43 (e).

Undisturbed runoff diversion ditch #12 located on the north side of the railroad car storage area conveys undisturbed runoff from a detention pond, and the old access road, to the undisturbed bypass culvert inlet on the west side of the shop. The western portion of this diversion is showing signs of erosion. The operator has made attempts in the past to stabilize this diversion and has met with limited success. Two possible means of addressing this situation were discussed with the operator: (a) minimize the channel side slope and rip-rap the channel in order to create a wider, shallow channel; or, (b) culvert the undisturbed diversion off the hillside directly to the existing undisturbed bypass culvert inlet. The operator was asked to address this problem within 60 days of our April 28, 1983 telephone conversation. In addressing the problem he should keep in mind the following three items: (a) UMC 817.43 (c); (b) the design for the diversion ditch which has already been approved by the Division (refer to pages 7-61 through 7-65 of the Mining and Reclamation Plan); and, (c) that any modifications made to the approved plan must first be sumbitted to and approved by the Division.

Undisturbed runoff diversion ditch #13 does not exist as shown on Plate 7-8 of PMC's Mining and Reclamation Plan instead the old access road above the diversion on the north side of the canyon serves as an undisturbed diversion which drains into undisturbed diversion runoff ditch #12. While discussing this with Mr. Grimes on April 28 he explained that it was physically impossible to implement the diversion as it is shown on Plate 7-8. Having inspected the site with Mr. Grimes I agreed that the old access road more than likely serves as a suitable diversion and that in order to install diversion ditch #13 as shown on their approved mine plan, that they would have to disturb a large amount of additional area. Mr. Grimes was informed that if the old access road is continued to be used as their undisturbed diversion that it should be permitted as such therefore, it is necessary for PMC to submit a revised Plate 7-8 with an explanation, and all peak flow and design criteria information such as that provided for all diversions already approved.

DAVID LOF
FIELD SPECIALIST

DL/lm

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Ben Grimes, PMC

Statistics:

See Natomas Trail Mountain memo dated April 28, 1983.