

January 18, 1984

Inspection Memo  
to Coal File:

RE: Bishopsgate Coal Corporation  
Scofield Area Drill Hole 81-5-1P  
CEP/007/006  
Carbon County, Utah

On October 12, 1983, I conducted a followup inspection at the above mentioned coal exploration site. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the status of Notice of Violation N82-4-13-1.

The violation was issued on October 22, 1982, for failure to contemporaneously reclaim the site. The operator was instructed to:

- A. Remove all trash and debris from the site and dispose of it in the county land fill.
- B. Regrade the site to as near a natural contour as possible.
- C. Replace the topsoil and prepare it for seeding.
- C. Reseed with the approved revegetation seed mix.

The violation was to have been abated within 30 days of receipt of the notice. The violation was received by the operator on October 29, 1982.

Shortly after the operator received the Notice of Violation, winter weather conditions set in which severely limited the access to the site and the potential for successful reclamation at that time. Therefore, on November 19, 1982, the Notice was modified to extend the time for abatement to April 30, 1983. Even though the abatement deadline was past the 90 day maximum time allowable for a violation, this was the only fair and reasonable thing that could be done given the circumstances, and at the same time hold the operator to a deadline for completing the remedial actions required.

On April 21, 1983, I received a letter from the operator stating that during a recent helicopter trip over the property by Scott Williams of Bishopsgate, they found that the site was still covered by approximately four to five feet of snow and that it was necessary for them to request an additional extension on the abatement deadline until late May or early June. Upon discussing the snow conditions at the other mines in the area with Division personnel, I felt that this was a reasonable request therefore, on April 25, 1983 I modified the Notice of Violation to extend the time for abatement to May 30, 1983 and asked the operator to keep me informed as to the conditions at the exploration site.

On May 27, 1983 I received another letter from the operator stating that during a recent trip, on May 18, 1983, the operator found the road to the site blocked with five to six feet of drifted snow and they noted that the snow on the north sidehills was still deep and road conditions were very muddy, therefore, weather conditions were still limiting the ability to successfully

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reclaim the site. Once again I discussed the conditions in the area with Division personnel, following the discussions I modified the Notice to extend the time for abatement until June 30, 1983.

In late June the operator called me and explained that they were still having trouble getting into the site. On August 3, 1983, I received a letter from Sanders Exploration (parent company of Bishopsgate Coal). The letter stated that the site was still inaccessible because one of the access roads was too muddy for even heavy equipment to get through, and the other access which is over the Pondtown Creek bridge, which is very old and made of logs would not support the weight of the subcontractors dozer. In addition during a July 27, 1983 site inspection the operator found that due to the large amount of rain that had been received, on almost a daily basis, the hillside below the drill site had become too soft to adequately support the operations of the dozer and that the equipment would probably cause more damage to the area while attempting to recontour the site. The operator committed to doing the work as soon as it could be done safely and the contractor had been instructed to monitor the conditions a couple of times per week so that the work could be done as soon as possible.

In mid August I received a phone call from Bill Green of Bishopsgate who informed me that the site had dried out sufficiently and that they had opted for another contractor who had a smaller dozer to do the work, and that they would be seeding and mulching the site later this fall.

On October 12, 1983, I conducted an onsite inspection at which time I found Mr. Green spreading straw for use as a mulch. He had seeded the site earlier that same day. The contractor had done a very good job recontouring the site and the short access road to the drill pad. Therefore, on November 1, 1983, I issued a Termination Notice, with the termination being effective October 12, 1983.



David Lof  
Field Specialist

DL:re

cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM  
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics:

Vehicle: EX 49611, 688 miles  
Per Diem: 1 person X 3 days, 4 hours = \$147.71  
Grant: A&E