

Document Information Form

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To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: JUNE 4, 1984

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in: C/007,006, Internal

- Refer to:
- Confidential
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Date _____ For additional information

File

June 4, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File

RE: Plateau Mining Company
Starpoint Mine
ACT/007/006, Folder #7
Carbon County, Utah

On April 30, 1984 the above mentioned operation was visited by Division Field Specialists David Lof and Tom Wright. The purpose of the visit was to follow-up on Notice of Violation N84-4-7-6, which was served to the operator on April 25, 1984. Upon arriving at the mine site we called Ben Grimes, Environmental Coordinator for Plateau, from the lower mine office and told him that we were going to look at the areas addressed in the Notice on our way up to the Lion Deck and that we would discuss the areas with him upon arrival at the Lion Deck mine offices.

Disturbed area diversion ditch #16 which is located on the north side of the refuse pile was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #1 of 6. The operator had failed to maintain this diversion in accordance with an approved mine plan, particularly the area where haul trucks cross back and forth over the diversion. The NOV required that the operator maintain the diversion in accordance with the approved plan by April 30, 1984. On April 27, 1984 Mr. Grimes called Division Field Supervisor Joe Helfrich and informed him that the diversion had been maintained as required. At the time of our inspection we found that the diversion was adequately maintained and that the operator had installed a 14 inch culvert at the truck crossing. The culvert appeared to be adequately sized and long enough to not be blocked by coal which may fall off the haul trucks.

The discharge from the preparation plant to Sediment Pond #5 was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #2 of 6. The discharge of water from the preparation plant is not in accordance with the operators approved mine plan and had caused additional contributions of suspended solids to stream flow and runoff outside of the permit area. The remedial action required four steps:

- A. Stop discharging from the preparation plant until approved by the Division. This was to be done immediately.
- B. Pump water out of Sediment Pond #5 down to the level of the dewatering device spillway and dispose of the water into Sediment Ponds 4, 6 and 7, at the same time not filling any of these ponds beyond the level of their respective dewatering device spillways. This was to be completed by April 27, 1984.
- C. Submit to the Division complete and adequate plans detailing how the discharge water from the preparation plant will be treated. Complete plans were to be submitted by ~~May 10, 1984~~.
- D. Clean all the sediment out of Sediment

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 Confidential
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In C/ 007, 006, Internal
For additional information

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June 4, 1984

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ACT/007/006, Folder #7
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Disturbed area diversion ditch #16 which is located on the north side of the refuse pile was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #1 of 6. The operator had failed to maintain this diversion in accordance with an approved mine plan, particularly the area where haul trucks cross back and forth over the diversion. The NOV required that the operator maintain the diversion in accordance with the approved plan by April 30, 1984. On April 27, 1984 Mr. Grimes called Division Field Supervisor Joe Helfrich and informed him that the diversion had been maintained as required. At the time of our inspection we found that the diversion was adequately maintained and that the operator had installed a 14 inch culvert at the truck crossing. The culvert appeared to be adequately sized and long enough to not be blocked by coal which may fall off the haul trucks.

The discharge from the preparation plant to Sediment Pond #5 was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #2 of 6. The discharge of water from the preparation plant is not in accordance with the operators approved mine plan and had caused additional contributions of suspended solids to stream flow and runoff outside of the permit area. The remedial action required four steps:

- A. Stop discharging from the preparation plant until approved by the Division. This was to be done immediately.
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- C. Submit to the Division complete and adequate plans detailing how the discharge water from the preparation plant will be treated. Complete plans were to be submitted by May 10, 1984.
- D. Clean all the sediment out of Sediment Pond #5 by May 10, 1984.

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE
ACT/007/006
June 4, 1984
page 2

At the time that the violation was issued, I agreed that the operator could construct a small sump near the discharge point for the preparation plant water so that the operator could continue to operate, so long as the sump contained all discharge water from the preparation plant. At the time of this inspection I found that the operator had constructed a small sump and had discharged a small amount of water into this sump. There were no signs of water having discharged from the sump.

We inspected Sediment Pond #5 and found that there was flow into the pond from Diversion #7 at a rate of approximately 5-15 gallons per minute. The water level in the pond appeared to be 6 to 8 inches lower than during the April 25, 1984 inspection. However, more water still needed to be pumped out of the pond. While inspecting Diversion Ditch #8 it did not appear as though any water had been pumped into this diversion in order to convey it to Sediment Trap #9 and eventually to either Sediment Ponds #6 or 7. We discussed this with Mr. Grimes, he said, that they had pumped water into Diversion #8 and to Sediment Trap #9. They needed to pump again due to the continual inflow from Diversion #7. He also informed us that the drag line contractor was scheduled to start cleaning the sediment pond on May 3, 1984.

The Class II road between Sediment Trap #5 and the #1 Mine portal pad, and its associated road side ditch, was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, # 4 of 6. The operator had failed to construct and maintain the Class II road to prevent erosion and failed to maintain the diversion ditch in accordance with their approved mine plan. The remedial action required the following three steps:

- A. Maintain the diversion ditch in accordance with the approved mine plan by May 3, 1984.
- B. Grade the road and maintain existing water bars by May 3, 1984.
- C. Submit drainage control plans for the road to the Division by May 10, 1984.

On April 27, Mr. Grimes, had informed Joe Helfrich that they had cleaned the diversion ditch and reestablished the water bars on the road and constructed the two additional water bars. At the time of the inspection it was evident that the operator had done a great deal of regrading work along the Class II road, reconstructing the existing water bars, and installing two additional water bars. Some work had also been done on the diversion however, quite a bit of additional work needed to be done in order to bring it into compliance with the approved mine plan.

The berm along the east side of the Class II road to the old #2 Mine portals was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #5 of 6. The operator had failed to maintain the Class III road, to minimize erosion. The remedial action

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE
ACT/007/006
June 4, 1984
page 2

required that the operator repair the berm then grade the road in order to prevent water from ponding on the road surface. This was to be completed by April 27, 1984. On April 27, 1984, Mr. Grimes called Mr. Helfrich and informed him that the berm had been repaired, and that the runoff water had been diverted in the proper direction. At the time of our inspection we found that the berm had indeed been repaired and that the runoff had been directed to the downspout on the old #2 Mine portal pad. However, it appeared that some grading work still needed to be done on the Class III road itself in order to prevent water from ponding against the berm. This was discussed with Mr. Grimes, who committed to regrading the road surface to eliminate the low spot along the side of the berm.

The Class II road between the #1 Mine portal pad and the noncoal waste trash bin area, specifically those areas adjacent to the 14 inch downspouts, was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #6 of 6. The operator had failed to maintain the Class II road in order to prevent ponding of water on the road surface, to minimize erosion, and not contribute additional suspended solids to stream flow or runoff outside the permit area. The remedial action required that the operator maintain the road by May 10, 1984. On April 27, 1984, Mr. Grimes informed Mr. Helfrich that they had attempted to grade the road in the problem areas but were having problems because of the wet conditions and frozen ground. At the time of this inspection it was evident that the operator had done some grading on the Class II road but areas were still just too wet. It appears as though the operator needs to bring in some road base gravel to fill in the wet areas and try to establish a better grade.

Sediment control for the noncoal waste trash bin area was the subject of NOV N84-4-7-6, #3 of 6. The operator had failed to maintain sediment controls in order to prevent additional contribution of suspended solids to stream flow or runoff outside the permit area. The remedial action required that the operator maintain the sediment filtering system and the inlet area of the drop drain for the noncoal waste trash bin area by April 27, 1984. On April 27, 1984 Mr. Grimes informed Mr. Helfrich that they had cleaned the sediment from the inlet area and replaced the straw filter. At the time of this inspection it was evident that the remedial action required for the violation had been met.



David Lof
Mining Field Specialist

DL:re

cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM
Ben Grimes, Plateau
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Sue Linner, DOGM
Tom Wright, DOGM

Statistics: See Trail Mountain Mine Memo dated May 14, 1984
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