

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/006

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: APRIL 24, 1984

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE

cc:

File in:
C/007/006, Internal

- Refer to:
- Confidential
 - Shelf
 - Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

April 24, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

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

DATE: March 28, and 29, 1984
TIME: 11:45 a.m. - 5:10 p.m. and
10:00 - 11:50 a.m., respectively
WEATHER: Sunny and mild, and cloudy and cool, respectively
COMPANY OFFICIALS: Ben Grimes, March 28, 1984 and
Frank Smaila, March 29, 1984
STATE OFFICIALS: David Lof
ENFORCEMENT ACTION: None

Compliance With Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

The following permits and approval letters were reviewed in the operators mine office:

1. A December 9, 1983 letter from the Division to the operator requesting additional information regarding Special Stipulations #6 and #10 which were attached to the operators January 21, 1982 final approval issued by OSM. To this date the operator has not responded to this letter.
2. A January 27, 1982 letter from the Division granting final approval of the operators mining and reclamation plan.
3. A January 12, 1984 letter from the Division granting approval of the plans for abatement of Notice of Violation N83-4-14-1. The approval letter required that the remedial actions be completed by May 15, 1984.
4. A March 16, 1984 letter from the Division to the operator approving the abatement plans for Notice of Violation N84-4-1-1. The approval letter required that the plans be implemented by June 15, 1984.
5. A Ju to the operator approving
with four breakout development. All
met. approval letter have been
File in: Confidential
 Shelf
 Expandable
Refer to Record No 0021 Date _____
6. A Se) In C/ 007, 006, Internal Division approving the noncoal
wast For additional information al were two stipulations
both _____ plied with.

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5. A June 15, 1983 letter from the Division to the operator approving with four conditions, the Corner Canyon breakout development. All four of the conditions required in the approval letter have been met.
6. A September 19, 1983 letter from the Division approving the noncoal waste bin area. Attached to this approval were two stipulations both of these stipulations have been complied with.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

The mine identification sign posted at the entrance of the mine site contained all the pertinent information required.

UMC 817.21-.25 Topsoil

Mr. Grimes and I inspected the subsoil stockpile to see how the terraces had held up through the winter. There were only two minor rills along the entire terraced face. The problems which led to the rills can be fixed fairly easily. There was also some minor erosion along the access road on the south, southeast side of the stockpile which need to be addressed. Mr. Grimes committed to having the work completed as soon as the area dried out enough so they can get equipment into the site.

The topsoil stockpiles located on the north side of the road across from the refuse piles were in good condition. Grass was already starting to green up on the stockpile, some germination was evident.

UMC 817.41-.52 Hydrologic Balance

On January 23, 1984 the Division received from the operator 14 copies of the operators reevaluation of their sediment control system. The document is entitled 'Review of 'As Built' Runoff and Sedimentation Control Plan, Starpoint Mines, Plateau Mine Company', and is prepared for the operator by Vaughn Hansen Associates, Inc. The review of this document is currently on hold due to the limited number of staff available for review of modifications.

Following my February 5, 1984 inspection of the mine site I issued Notice of Violation N84-4-1-1, regarding sediment controls for the Lion Deck parking area. The remedial actions required for abatement of the violation required the submittal to the Division of complete and adequate plans detailing how the subject area runoff would be diverted to Sediment Pond #1. These plans were received by the Division on February 24, 1984 and approved on March 16, 1984. (See Permits item #4).

Sediment pond inspection reports were reviewed for the period from January 10, 1984 through March 20, 1984:

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|------------------|---|
| January 10, 1984 | Rollins, Gunnel and Brown had tried to install a piezometer on the side hill by Sediment Pond #4 but could only get down 2 feet because of rock, one piezometer in the embankment, it was dry. |
| March 19, 1984 | Apparent leak into the embankment of Sediment Pond #5, the leak is located approximately at the interface of the fill and natural soil, approximately 30 feet from the outlet pipes. No evidence of differential settlement. Inspection |

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of out slopes of embankment and canyon below the pond found no evidence of exit points of the water seeping into the embankment. Tried to seal off leak by hand digging in the area filling the embankment with 1000 pounds of bentonite and limestone dust. Piezometer in embankment dry.

March 20, 1984

Water level in sediment pond was rising above the suspected leak area. Operator added 1500 pounds of rock dust into the embankment.

At the time of my inspection Sediment Pond #5 was quite full of runoff, water was within inches of flowing into the decant pipe. The flow into the pond was estimated at approximately 150 gallons per minute and was heavily laden with sediment. There were no apparent leaks through the embankment, the out slope below the leak area was wet, however, it could have easily been due to snow drifts on the canyon side. There were no indications of slope failure or saturation of the embankment. Mr. Grimes said that the out slope which was disturbed when the downspout was repaired last year was seeded last fall. I informed him that it may need to be seeded again this coming fall depending upon the success of last years attempt.

I discussed the certification of Sediment Ponds # 1,3, and 5, with Mr. Grimes. I informed him that they would either have to get the ponds certified by a Registered Professional Engineer or submit a letter to the Division requesting a variance from the regulations. I suggested that the letter contain information on: Tthe sediment ponds static safety factor and embankment stability reports; surveys by a registered surveyor showing that the ponds are sized in accordance with the approved plan; and certification that the emergency spillway and dewatering device are constructed according to the approved plan. On April 9, 1984, the Division received a letter from the Division requesting a variance from the regulations. This request is currently being reviewed by Division staff.

Since my last inspection the operator has maintained the diversion along the south side of the main road adjacent to the refuse pile (diversion ditch #15). However, they are still having problems specifically in the area where the large haul trucks cross back and forth through the ditch. I told Mr. Grimes that they may have to maintain this on a daily basis to insure proper drainage.

The sediment basin at the east end of the refuse pile had been cleaned out, it appeared as though there had been very little sediment deposited by spring runoff.

The undisturbed Diversion Ditch #14 which was the subject of Notice of Violation N83-4-14-1 had been maintained according to the operators proposed interim measures until they can install the half-round culvert which has been approved. (See Permits item #3). This diversion still needs to dry out before

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the half-round culvert can be installed. At the time of my inspection there was no runoff flowing in the diversion.

There were no apparent problems with sediment Pond #6, at the time of my inspection there was very little water being held in the pond.

Sediment Pond #7 had very little water, there were no apparent problems except that the manhole cover to the decant valve was not locked. Mr. Grimes said that he would get a new lock for the manhole cover.

I impressed upon Mr. Smaila the need to maintain proper grades along the outside edge of the Lion Deck so that water would not pond on the edge of the Lion Deck.

"Sediment Pond #2" was quite full of water. I inspected the filter at the outlet of the pond and it appeared as though it had held up very well during the winter.

UMC 817.52 Surface and Ground Water Monitoring

The operator currently holds NPDES Permit #UT-0023736 which expires on December 31, 1986. I asked Mr. Grimes if the outlet for Sediment Pond #2 had been included in the NPDES permit, he said that it had not and that they are waiting approval from the Division for the final design plans for the sediment pond before they add it to their permit. I also asked Mr. Grimes if the Corner Canyon sediment basin had been included as a point source to the permit and he said that it had not. This needs to be discussed with Division Hydrologist.

A review of the fourth quarter NPDES monitoring data did not indicate any violations of effluent limitations.

I reviewed surface water and ground water monitoring data through January 6, 1984. Most of the sites were frozen or inaccessible when the operator attempted to obtain water samples during January.

The operator had a February 9, 1984 letter from EPA informing Plateau that EPA was modifying the permit limitations for TDS based upon State Health's review.

UMC 817.11-.117 Revegetation

Mr. Grimes informed me that Plateau is going to be planting approximately 20,000 seedlings in the next month. The seedlings are being obtained from Native Plants of Utah. I asked Mr. Grimes if they were planning on using Vexar tubing to protect the seedlings and he said that he had thought about it but was not sure. He is going to look at some seedlings that were planted last year to see how they survived.

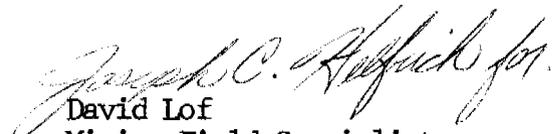
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UMC 817.150-.176 Roads

I inspected the road to the old portals above the #1 Mine. There is a low area along the road where water had ponded and broken down the berm causing some erosion on the downslope below. I told Mr. Smaila that this area would need to be addressed.

The Class II road from the #1 mine down to where it meets the Class I road needs to be regraded, old water bars reestablished and additional water bars installed. There was excessive erosion on the road surface, extensive rills in several areas, some of the runoff which was supposed to go to the sediment trap had bypassed it and ponded in the hairpin curve near the sediment trap. I discussed the need to regrade the Class II road with Mr. Smaila.

Because of the settling along the Class II access road to the Lion Deck, several low areas have developed along the outside of the road embankment. These low areas are associated with the road fill areas. Because of the low areas on the outside of the embankment, there is erosion occurring on the downslopes. I discussed with Mr. Grimes the possibility of installing berms along the road in the low areas to divert runoff away from them and convey the runoff to the cross culverts perhaps by installing drop inlets on the outside edge of the road above the culverts.


David Lof
Mining Field Specialist

DL:re

cc: Ben Grimes, Plateau Mining Company
Jodie Merriman, OSM
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Sue Linner, DOGM

Statistics: See Consolidation Coal Company memo dated April 23, 1984
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