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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

INSPECTION REPORT

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Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

Partial: XXX Complete: Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: 12/7/99 / 11:30a.m-4:00p.m.
Date of Last Inspection: 11/10/99

Mine Name: Star Point Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/006 #5
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Plateau Mining Corporation
Business Address: 847 Northwest Highway 191, Helper, Utah 84526
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface Prep. Plant Other
Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas, Rick Fox
State Officials(s): Bill Malencik Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Cloudy, Foggy, Snowing, Snowed the night before inspection
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 9,060 Disturbed- 220 Regraded- Seeded- Bonded- 220
Increased/Decreased: Permitted- Disturbed- Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-
Status: Exploration/ XXX Active/ Inactive/ Temporary Cessation/ Bond Forfeiture
Reclamation (Phase I/ Phase II/ Final Bond Release/ Liability Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- 1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
a. For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

Table with 5 columns: Item, EVALUATED, N/A, COMMENTS, NOV/ENF. Rows include: 1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE; 2. SIGNS AND MARKERS; 3. TOPSOIL; 4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE; 5. EXPLOSIVES; 6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES; 7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS; 8. NONCOAL WASTE; 9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES; 10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE; 11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION; 12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING; 13. REVEGETATION; 14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL; 15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS; 16. ROADS; 17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES; 18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS; 19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) (date); 20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT; 21. BONDING & INSURANCE.

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/006

DATE OF INSPECTION: 12/7/99

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

GENERAL COMMENTS

A complete inspection was performed by the undersigned. The field and record portions were completed on 11/10/99. Highlights of the inspection are as follows:

SUMMARY

-Star Point mine is considering moving into the Hiawatha seam. There is four to five million tons of recoverable coal. This move is underway because of the uncertainties at the Willow Creek mine. This proposal is to get started after the first of the year. A complexity is the four foot coal seam. The tentative schedule is to start mining the Hiawatha seam in January, 2000. The mine has a life of four years at one million tons per year.

-New ID signs have been installed at the mine.

-Pond #8 has been cleaned.

-Pond #5, the cleaning, as covered in the last report, is well underway. The material is currently stacked within a portion of the pond. The Star Point track hoe broke down. Mr. Pappas stated if they don't get the hoe repaired he would look to bring a contractor in to finish the work.

-The mine site was covered with about three to five inches of snow depending on the area. The snow came the morning before the inspection.

-The used belt line adjacent to the coal storage area was discussed. Mr. Fox stated they would take care of the belt issue.

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

New ID signs are now in place.

Identification signs are in place where public roads interface with the permit boundary. Also, other signs include topsoil and refuse pile signs. Stream buffer zone sign marks the encroachment approved areas on adjacent to streams. The disturbed boundary is marked. The permittee has marked each fuel and fluid tank as to content.

4A. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS

There are approximately sixteen miles of constructed diversions within the disturbed and interfacing undisturbed area. This includes water conveyance systems of over 80 ditches and 32 culverts and berms that control and direct runoff. The diversions are designed and discussed in Section 742.300. In the prior inspection, all diversions were functional and maintenance was suggested on several diversions. This was completed as validated today.

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/006

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

There are nine sediment ponds and three water impoundments. The sediment ponds provide sediment control for the majority of the disturbed areas. There are four BTCA's. The runoff from these areas are treated and controlled by alternative sediment control measures. The water impoundments are associated with the coal wash plant.

None of the sediment ponds were discharging during the inspection. Ponds 1,2,4,5,8, and 9 contained runoff; the remainder were dry. Pond inspections for the third quarter were on file at the mine site, including last year's annual inspection. Pond #5 needs to be cleaned is underway. Pond #8 has just been cleaned.

4C. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

Silt fences provide the sediment control on the BTCA areas. The mine has installed redundant sediment control measures including straw bales, silt fences, sumps, and check dams to retain sediment near the source.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The coal mine waste, as approved by the Division, covers an area of approximately 69 acres. The refuse pile approved design includes out slopes NTE 2:1, a MSHA berm, a sloping pile with positive drainage, diversions designed to meet 6 hr 100 year storm event, and commitment on restricting non-coal waste and combustible materials being stored in the refuse pile.

The third quarter inspection report was prepared by the permittee and a copy was submitted to the Division. A MSHA berm required maintenance. It was maintained as noted above.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

A small amount of used belt line was stored adjacent to the noncoal waste area. Mr. Fox indicated he would get a crew to take care of this problem.

16A. ROADS: CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING

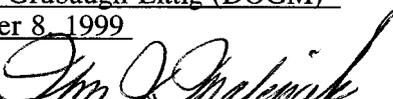
All roads, both ancillary and primary, are designed and discussed in the MRP.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Johnny Pappas (Plateau) Henry Austin (OSM)
Given to: Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office
Date: December 8, 1999

Inspector's Signature: _____


Wm. J. Malencik

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