



0005 U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
 RECEIVED OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
 MAY 21 2007 Mine Site Evaluation  
 State Program



*Henry Austin*  
 2/007/0008

1. Permittee/Person <b>PLATEAU MINING CORP.</b>		9. Permit Number <b>UT-007-006</b>	10. Permit Type <b>PP</b>
2. Address <b>P.O. BOX 30</b>		11. Field Visit Date <b>05/10/2007</b> mm - dd - yyyy	12. Purpose <b>O</b>
3. City <b>Helper</b>	4. State <b>UT</b>	13. SRA Present <b>Y</b>	14. Permit Status <b>IN</b>
5. Zip Code <b>84526</b>	6. Phone Number <b>(435) 472-0475</b>	15. Site Status <b>PI</b>	16. Facility Type <b>BK</b>
7. Operator Name, if Different than Permittee		17. OSM Office # <b>140</b>	18. CCID #
8. Mine Name <b>STAR POINT MINE</b>		19. Land Code <b>SF</b>	20. M.S.H.A ID # <b>42-00171</b>
		21. State Abrev. <b>UT</b>	22. County Name <b>CARBON</b>
		23. AVS Permittee Entity ID Number <b>060102</b>	24. State Office

25. Hours	26. Signature Block	27. Reviewing Official:
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.0 a. Permit Review	<i>Henry Austin</i> Signature: <u>5/15/07</u>	<i>J. P. ...</i> Signature:
<input type="checkbox"/> 3.0 b. Site Visit Time	Printed Name: <b>HENRY AUSTIN ID # 116</b>	Review Date: <b>5/15/07</b> mm - dd - yyyy
<input type="checkbox"/> 2.0 c. Travel Time	Date: <b>05/15/2007</b>	Is Supplemental MSE Page Used Y/N <b>Y</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1.5 d. Report Writing		

Permit Type — Item 10 IP = Interim Program, PP = Permanent Program, NP = No Permit

Purpose Type Codes Item 12  
 Oxx... Oversight Rfx... Reclamation Fees CCR... Citizen Complaint Referral (non site visit)  
 Axx... Assistance Fxx... Federal Actions CC... Citizen Complaint (initial site visit)  
 CCF... Citizen Complaint Follow-up

Joint Inspection — Item 13 A joint inspection is when a state inspector accompanies an OSM inspector any time during the review of the mine site.

Permit Status — Item 14  
 A... Active: Coal mining and reclamation activities occurring or permitted but not yet disturbed.  
 IN... Inactive (Permanent Program Permit): Phase II completed or Temporary Cessation of Operations. (Interim Program Permit) Coal mining completed and reclamation activities initiated.  
 BR... Bond Release: Reclamation completed and State Regulatory Authority (RA) has released all of the bond (Phase III Release.)  
 AB... Abandoned: All surface and underground coal mining activities have ceased and operator has left the site without completing reclamation as defined in 30 CFR 840.11(g)  
 AB1... Bond Forfeiture: Bond forfeiture officially in process or completed, and reclamation in progress or not yet commenced.  
 AB2... Partially Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site where all bonds have been used to reclaim site, but site not reclaimed to Program standards.  
 AB3... Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site that has been reclaimed to Program standards.  
 NA... Not Applicable: When site is unpermitted.

Site Status Codes — Item 15  
 ND... No Disturbance: No coal mining and reclamation operations have been started.  
 EX... Coal Exploration: Coal exploration operations have started and where coal mining operations have not begun.  
 AP... Active Coal Producing: Coal surface mining activities are occurring.  
 AN... Active Non-Producing: Active non-producing facility such as tipple or preparation plant.  
 NM... No Mining: The Permit Status is active, site is not in Temporary Cessation, no surface coal mining activity, and site not regraded.  
 MC... Mining Complete: No mining activity on site, site regraded and awaiting phase bond release.  
 TC... Temporary Cessation: The RA has granted cessation of mining pursuant to 30 CFR 816/817.131(b).  
 P1... Phase I Release: At least Phase I bond release granted for entire permitted area. For interim permits, partial bond release.  
 P2... Phase II Release: At least Phase II bond release for the entire permitted area.  
 P3... Phase III Release: Reclamation completed and the RA has released all bond.  
 NS... Non-Site Visit: Status of site not determined.  
 FP... Forfeiture Pending: The RA is pursuing actions to revoke the permit, collect the performance bond(s), and/or reclamation of forfeited site is in progress.  
 FR... Forfeited and Reclaimed: Forfeiture reclamation completed.  
 FO... Abandoned Site: Abandoned site that is permitted but there is no bond.  
 WC... Wildcat: Coal mining and reclamation operations have or are taking place and the activity is not covered by the required permits from the RA.

Facility Type Codes — Item 16  
 A... Surface D... Ancillary (Haulroad, Conveyor, and/or Rails) H... Exploration Permits L... Remining site permitted under 30 CFR 785.25  
 B... Underground E... Refuse and/or Impoundment I... Notice of Intent to Explore  
 C... Preparation Plant F... Loading Facility and/or Tipple J... Exempt 16 and 2/3  
 G... Stockpiles K... Government Financed Construction Exemption

**Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA)**  
**Your Comments Are Important**

The Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsmen and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were established to receive comments from small businesses about Federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman will annually evaluate the enforcement activities and rate each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you are a small business (a business with 500 or fewer employees including those of affiliates) and wish to comment on the enforcement or compliance activities of OSM, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

# U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

## Mine Site Evaluation

State Program

Permittee/  
Person

**PLATEAU MINING CORP.**

Permit  
Number

**UT-007-006**

Field Visit  
Date

**05/10/2007**

**Continuation Page**

### 28. Performance Standard Categories

Codes: 1=Compliance, 2=Noncompliance, 3=Not Planned, 4=Not Started, 5=Noncompliance Identified Elsewhere, 6=Previously Cited

<p><b>A. Administrative</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Mining within Valid Permit</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Mining within Bonded Area</li> <li>3. <u>1</u> Terms &amp; Conditions of Permit</li> <li>4. <u>1</u> Liability Insurance</li> <li>5. <u>1</u> Ownership and Control</li> <li>6. <u>1</u> Temporary Cessation</li> <li>7. <u>1</u> AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondent</li> <li>8. <u>1</u> AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Hydrologic Balance</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Drainage Control</li> <li>2. <u>3</u> Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> <li>3. <u>3</u> Siltation Structures</li> <li>4. <u>3</u> Discharge Structures</li> <li>5. <u>3</u> Diversions</li> <li>6. <u>1</u> Effluent Limits</li> <li>7. <u>1</u> Ground Water Monitoring</li> <li>8. <u>1</u> Surface Water Monitoring</li> <li>9. <u>3</u> Drainage -- Acid-Toxic Materials</li> <li>10. <u>3</u> Impoundments</li> <li>11. <u>3</u> Stream Buffer Zones</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Topsoil &amp; Subsoil</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Removal</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Substitute Materials</li> <li>3. <u>1</u> Storage and Protection</li> <li>4. <u>1</u> Redistribution</li> </ol>	<p><b>D. Backfilling &amp; Grading</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Exposed Openings</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Contemporaneous Reclamation</li> <li>3. <u>1</u> Approximate Original Contour</li> <li>4. <u>1</u> Highwall Elimination</li> <li>5. <u>1</u> Steep Slopes (includes downslope)</li> <li>6. <u>3</u> Handling of Acid &amp; Toxic Materials</li> <li>7. <u>1</u> Stabilization (rills and gullies)</li> </ol> <p><b>E. Excess Spoil Disposal</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>3</u> Placement</li> <li>2. <u>3</u> Drainage Control</li> <li>3. <u>3</u> Surface Stabilization</li> <li>4. <u>3</u> Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> </ol> <p><b>F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>3</u> Drainage Control</li> <li>2. <u>3</u> Surface Stabilization</li> <li>3. <u>3</u> Placement</li> <li>4. <u>3</u> Inspections and Certifications</li> <li>5. <u>3</u> Impounding Structures</li> </ol> <p><b>G. Use Of Explosives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>3</u> Blaster Certification</li> <li>2. <u>3</u> Distance Prohibitions</li> <li>3. <u>3</u> Blast Survey/Schedule</li> <li>4. <u>3</u> Warnings &amp; Records</li> <li>5. <u>3</u> Control of Adverse Effects</li> </ol>	<p><b>H. <u>1</u> Subsidence Control Plan</b></p> <p><b>I. Roads</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Road Construction</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Certification</li> <li>3. <u>1</u> Drainage</li> <li>4. <u>1</u> Surfacing and Maintenance</li> <li>5. <u>1</u> Reclamation</li> </ol> <p><b>J. Signs &amp; Markers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Signs</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Markers</li> </ol> <p><b>K. <u>1</u> Distance Prohibitions</b></p> <p><b>L. Revegetation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Vegetative Cover</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Timing</li> </ol> <p><b>M. <u>1</u> Postmining Land Use</b></p> <p><b>N. Other</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">General</td> <td style="width: 20px;">_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Performance</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Category</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3)</td> <td colspan="6"></td> </tr> </table>	General	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	Performance	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	Category	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____		1)	2)	3)						
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	1)	2)	3)																																							

### Performance Standard Categories 30 CFR Counterpart

<p><b>A. Administrative.....</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Valid Permit..... 773.11</li> <li>2. Mining within Bonded Area..... 773.11</li> <li>3. Terms &amp; Conditions of Permit..... 773.17</li> <li>4. Liability Insurance..... 800.60</li> <li>5. Ownership and Control..... 778.13</li> <li>6. Temporary Cessation..... 842.11(e) &amp; 816/817.131</li> <li>7. AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondant..... 870.15(b)</li> <li>8. AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay..... 870.15(a)</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Hydrologic Balance.....(816/817.41-57)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage Control.....45</li> <li>2. Inspections &amp; Certifications.....49(a)(10)</li> <li>3. Siltation Structures.....46</li> <li>4. Discharge Structures .....47</li> <li>5. Diversions.....43</li> <li>6. Effluent Limits.....42</li> <li>7. Ground Water Monitoring.....41(c)</li> <li>8. Surface Water Monitoring.....41(e)</li> <li>9. Drainage--Acid - Toxic Materials.....41(f)</li> <li>10. Impoundments.....49</li> <li>11. Stream Buffer Zones.....57</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Topsoil &amp; Subsoil.....(816/817.22)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Removal.....22(a)</li> <li>2. Substitute Materials.....22(c)</li> <li>3. Storage and Protection.....22(c)</li> <li>4. Redistribution.....22(d)</li> </ol> <p><b>D. Backfilling &amp; Grading.....(816/817.95-107)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exposed Openings.....816/817.13, 14, 15, &amp; 823.11 &amp; 21</li> <li>2. Contemporaneous Reclamation.....100</li> <li>3. Approximate Original Contour.....102(a)(1)</li> <li>4. Highwall Elimination.....102(a)(2)</li> <li>5. Steep Slopes (includes downslope).....107</li> <li>6. Handling of Acid &amp; Toxic Materials.....102(c)</li> <li>7. Stabilization (rills and gullies).....95(b)</li> </ol>	<p><b>E. Excess Spoil Disposal.....(816/817.71-74)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Placement.....71(e)</li> <li>2. Drainage Control .....71(f)</li> <li>3. Surface Stabilization.....71(g)</li> <li>4. Inspections &amp; Certifications.....71(h)</li> </ol> <p><b>F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments) .....(816/817.81-84)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage Control .....83(a)</li> <li>2. Surface Stabilization.....83(b)</li> <li>3. Placement.....83(c)</li> <li>4. Inspections and Certifications.....83(d)</li> <li>5. Impounding Structures.....84</li> </ol> <p><b>G. Use of Explosives.....(816/817.61-68)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Blaster Certification.....61(c)</li> <li>2. Distance Prohibitions.....61(d)</li> <li>3. Blast Survey/Schedule.....62-64</li> <li>4. Warnings &amp; Records .....66 &amp; 68</li> <li>5. Control of Adverse Effects.....67</li> </ol> <p><b>H. Subsidence Control Plan.....(817.121-122)</b></p> <p><b>I. Roads.....(816/817.150-151)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Road Construction.....150(c)</li> <li>2. Certification.....151(a)</li> <li>3. Drainage.....150(b)-151(d)</li> <li>4. Surfacing and Maintenance.....150(e)-151(d)</li> <li>5. Reclamation.....150(f)</li> </ol> <p><b>J. Signs &amp; Markers .....(816/817.11)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signs.....11(a),(b),&amp;(c)</li> <li>2. Markers.....11(a),(b),(d),(e),&amp;(f)</li> </ol> <p><b>K. Distance Prohibitions.....(761.11)</b></p> <p><b>L. Revegetation.....(816/817.111-116)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vegetative Cover.....111 &amp; 116</li> <li>2. Timing.....113</li> </ol> <p><b>M. Postmining Land Use.....(816/817.133)</b></p>
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May 10, 2007

Plateau Mining Company  
P.O. Box 30  
Helper, UT 84526-0030

Star Point Mine  
Complete, oversight inspection  
May 10, 2007

Participants:

Dennis Ware, Plateau Mining Co. (PMC)  
Karl Housekeeper, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (OGM)  
Henry Austin, Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

We conducted a complete inspection of the Star Point Mine reclamation areas on May 10, 2007. Ground conditions were dry throughout the areas inspected. The primary purpose of this inspection was to evaluate the mine for offsite impacts. After inspecting all the reclamation areas, we did not observe any offsite impacts. All reclaimed areas have received Phase I bond release.

We inspected the reestablished Serviceberry Creek area and it is stable with all the downdrain side channels and the main drainage channel functioning as designed. No erosion that needed maintenance was noted. Vegetation is just beginning to green up, and vegetative cover looks good.

We observed the Mine No. 1 pre-law disturbance area that was also reclaimed. This area is very steep, and here also the final reclamation is stable with little erosion noted. All reclamation areas are heavily imprinted, or pocked, to roughen the soil surface, prevent erosion, and assist with plant establishment.

We inspected the Lions Deck / upper portal bench reclamation area, again noting the heavy surface imprinting has been successful in preventing significant erosion. Vegetative cover and species diversity look good here also.

Roadways appeared to be well maintained and are not a problem on the areas inspected. It was evident the county had recently removed rock falls from the road and did minor grading.

We completed the inspection at the former train loadout area. This area is stable and given the Mancos shale derived soil types here, vegetation on the reclaimed areas looks exceptional compared to adjacent undisturbed lands. No significant erosion was noted.

Star Point Mine, pg. 2

Mr. Housekeeper conducted a records review at the mine offices including: The OGM permit renewal was issued January 28, 2007, and electronic submittal of water monitoring data is the only stipulation. The first quarter 2007 water monitoring information has been uploaded.

The UPDES permit acknowledged sediment pond removal, and was terminated effective January 18, 2004.

Liability insurance is current through July 30, 2007; and the current bond amount after Phase I bond release is \$3,118,400.00. This concluded the inspection.

Please address any questions concerning this report to Henry Austin, Senior Reclamation Specialist, at [haustin@osmre.gov](mailto:haustin@osmre.gov) or to (303) 844-1400 x 1466.