



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
*Division Director*

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.  
*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

# Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070006
Inspection Type:	TECHNICAL
Inspection Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2009
Start Date/Time:	9/17/2009 12:30:00 PM
End Date/Time:	9/17/2009 3:30:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Wednesday, August 26, 2009

Inspector: Priscilla Burton, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: sun, 70 F

InspectionID Report Number: 2139

Accepted by: jhefric

9/21/2009

Permittee: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**  
 Operator: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**  
 Site: **STAR POINT MINE**  
 Address: **PO BOX 30, HELPER UT 84526-0030**  
 County: **CARBON**  
 Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**  
 Permit Status: **RECLAIMED**

#### Current Acreages

8,919.91	<b>Total Permitted</b>
113.34	<b>Total Disturbed</b>
113.34	<b>Phase I</b>
95.30	<b>Phase II</b>
5.64	<b>Phase III</b>

#### Mineral Ownership

- Federal  
 State  
 County  
 Fee  
 Other

#### Types of Operations

- Underground  
 Surface  
 Loadout  
 Processing  
 Reprocessing

#### Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

Walked to the reclaimed slope up to the less well vegetated area in the vicinity of the former coal pile. The reason for the poor vegetation in this square area was a puzzle to us on the mid-term inspection (7/28/2009). Slope is convex in this location. Soil is weathered shale and sandstone. Observed and photographed the vegetation. Photographs available in the database.

Inspector's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Priscilla Burton*

Priscilla Burton, Environmental Scientist III

Inspector ID Number: 37

Date Thursday, September 17, 2009

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

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**REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS**

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 Not Applicable.
  - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference 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, Divison Orders, and amendments.

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **13. Revegetation**

The area of limited vegetation is located immediately below the [former] coal storage pile access road and the [former] material equipment storage yard shown on Surface Facilities Map E-13. The reclaimed slope is shown between SPRD 10 and SPRD 11 on the Phase I bond release map 542.200b. This area was graded to a convex slope (perhaps more so than shown on the map), covered with subsoil, gouged and seeded. In this small area two subsoil cover materials could be identified by color as either sandstone or shale derived. MRP Section 240 indicates that cover material was obtained from overcast materials on the outslope of the haulroad below the Mine #1 loadout area, from the #3 pond embankment and from the loadout pad. An evaluation of these soil materials is provided in Ex. 241b. TP-5 sample of the coal load out area represents the closest available cover. This trench revealed 3 - 4 feet of compacted weathered siltstone and shale. The analytical data for the TP 5 indicates near neutral pH and very low SAR and a texture of silt loam. Perhaps the most lacking analyte is phosphorus at less than 0.01 ppm. Compare these phosphorus values with those of the refuse expansion area soil analysis found in Table 230.200b.

Although the site looks rather barren from afar, there was quite a lot of perennial vegetation and many shrubs on the slope. A visual estimate of plant cover was less than or equal to 30%. The following vegetation was noted: flax, penstamon, aster, bitterbrush, littleleaf and curleaf mahogany, rabbit brush, and salina wildrye.

Salina Wildrye dominates the reclaimed access road to the Mine #1 portals (seeded with the Mountain Grassland seed mix (Table 341.220e). A finer grass (probably *Agropyron spicatum* or *Elymus spicatus* according to the 2008 Annual Report, vegetation monitoring) is dominant along the County Road at its intersection with the Mine #1 haul road. According to the 2008 Annual report, this area (evaluated as segment D) was seeded with the Sagebrush Area seed mix Table 341.220d).

I found and photographed the maple tree that was planted by the Division in 2002 at the base of the cliff (at the origin of channel SPRD 10). The single stem tree died back and 6 or 7 stems have sprouted making a shrub shape. Similar to several maples in fall color noted on the adjacent undisturbed slopes.