

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/007

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: April 3, 1979

Explanation:

Memo to Coal file:

cc:

File in:
C/007, 007, Internal

- Refer to:
- Confidential
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Date _____ For additional information

April 3, 1979

Memo to Coal File:

RE: Kaiser Steel
Sunnyside Mine
Carbon County, Utah
ACT/007/007

A partial inspection of this underground coal mining operation was performed on March 26 and 27, 1979, by Mary Ann Wright and Jim Smith of the Division and Barry Grosely, Assistant Mine Engineer for Kaiser Steel. According to Mr. Grosely no work has been done with regards to the last inspection of November 2, 1978.

Several areas of violations were noted: (1) The access sign still did not show the business address, telephone number, or permit number; (2) Coal waste material had been deposited in areas other than the waste dump area (ie. at two sites along the road from the preparation plant to the waste dump, and in Grassy Trail Creek adjacent to the preparation plant at the waste loading site and along the Creek edge by the parking lot); (3) The roads to the upper bath house area and waste dump are surfaced with coal waste and are contributing additional suspended solids to runoff, as are several other roads not composed of waste such as to ventilation shafts; (4) Sedimentation ponds below the upper bath house have not been engineered or approved, unapproved sedimentation/slurry ponds below the preparation plant are full of slurry (it is doubtful that they adequately collect runoff from the disturbed area), and no sediment pond exists below the waste dump; (5) Adequate diversion and runoff control structures to protect the hydrologic system are lacking; (6) no ground or surface water monitoring programs exist (only mine water discharge for N.P.D.E.S. permits are monitored); (7) The topsoil stockpile is not marked or protected.

Specifically noted during the inspection was an old conveyor belt attached to the guardrail next to the waste loading silo to "protect" the creek from spillage due to overloading of the trucks. Runoff containing coal waste was going under the belt and coal waste had spilled over the guardrail into the creek. Several other sections of the creek contained coal waste as a result of using coal waste to keep the parking lot ice-free in winter months. The upper areas of the operation could not be inspected properly due to the presence of snow and/or mud. A new pond adjacent to the

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original slurry impoundment area was being used for slurry because the two newly constructed sediment/slurry ponds were full. Clear water decanted from these ponds is used for irrigation of alfalfa fields below the ponds, on Kaiser property.

According to Mr. Grosely, Grassy Trail Reservoir was built by Kaiser Steel and is being turned over to the town. Also, a transaction is taking place between Kaiser and American Fuels Company to process all coal waste into fireplace cubes and fertilizer beginning sometime this year. The plant facilities are to be located on Kaiser property. Currently the waste dump is being compacted into lifts and covered with surficial material, mainly mancos shale.

Mr. Grosely was advised of the infractions noted and was informed that the Division requires much additional information regarding Kaiser's mining and reclamation plan. Needed, are updated maps showing all surface facilities, drainage and diversion structures, disturbed areas, topsoil stockpile, monitoring stations, etc. Also required are engineering designs and specifications for sedimentation ponds, diversion structures, and waste dump. Plans for surface and groundwater monitoring and revegetation, as well as soil analysis results need to be submitted.

After follow-up inspection by the Division's Engineering Geologist, a formal letter will be sent to Kaiser containing the notice of violations along with deadlines by which to correct those situations. The letter will also detail the additional required information.

JWS
JAMES W. SMITH, JR.
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

JWS/te

cc: Office of Surface Mining

Vehicle # EX68805
366 Miles
2 Persons x 1 day 7 hours
@ 27.50/day = \$59.00