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United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
BROOKS TOWERS  
1020 15TH STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

Route & File  
ACT/007/007  
MSW  
JWS  
TJS  
MKS  
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RECEIVED  
JUL 24 1980

July 17, 1980

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Ron Daniels  
Coordinator of Mined Land Development  
Department of Natural Resources  
155 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Mr. Daniels:

Enclosed please find a copy(s) of on-site inspection report. The inspection was conducted within Sunnyside Mine during the period of June 24, 1980.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Ehmett  
Acting Assistant Regional Director  
Division of Inspection & Enforcement

REGIN V ON SITE INSPECTION REPORT

KAISER STEEL CORPORATION  
SUNNYSIDE MINE  
P.O. Box D  
Sunnyside, Utah 84539  
(801) 888-4421

DATE: June 24, 1980  
TIME: 10:30 a.m.  
WEATHER: Sunny, clear, and warm  
COUNTY AND STATE: Carbon, Utah  
COMPANY OFFICIALS: John Huefner and Lynn Huntsman  
STATE OFFICIALS: Joe Helfrich and Mary Kay Stein  
OSM OFFICIAL: Eileen Doherty  
STATE PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/007  
MSHA NUMBER: 42-00094  
NOV NUMBER: 80-5-7-16

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERIM REGULATIONS

717.11 General Obligations

The January 1978 211 mine plan approval, maps, and operating authorizations were reviewed at the mine office. Several authorizations and permits were not available. A submission proposing that there is no groundwater available for monitoring at this time has apparently been made to OSM and Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (DOGM). There is a permanent waste disposal site at this mine. Plans for construction of this site were reviewed during this inspection, but the operator has not received comments from OSM or DOGM in reference to this active disposal site. Immediate review of the two plans by the Regulatory Authorities is necessary. The operator is responsible for having MSHA safety approvals available for inspection.

Violation 4 of NOV 80-5-7-16 cites operating without a permit at the three borrow pits near the refuse and waste disposal areas. Modification to the permit is necessary to include these areas.

Violation 8 of NOV 80-5-7-16 requires Kaiser to obtain a State Health Division permit for the solid waste disposal site on the mine. The Health Division has accepted some of the responsibility as an oversight on their part, but the ultimate responsibility lies with the operator.

717.12 Signs and Markers

Signs were posted as required.

717.15 Disposal of Excess Rock and Earth

The coarse refuse disposal area has been cleaned of debris and timbers. Four feet of cover material has been placed over portions of the old coal waste fill which were on fire.

SUNNYSIDE MINE

717.15 Disposal of Excess Rock and Earth (cont'd)

Plans submitted for the coarse refuse disposal do not address stability or safety factors. This information is necessary before any complete review of the plans can be attempted. Failure to read the regulations and submit adequate information will constitute noncompliance.

717.17 Protection of the Hydrologic System

A new sediment pond has been built at the manshaft area. Violation #2 of NOV 80-5-7-16 cites a failure to reclaim the inactive access road to this new pond site. A stream crossing had been built using soil and culverts. The culverts had washed out and the crossing on the perennial Grassy Trail Creek had not been reclaimed. Violation #1 cited breached berms on the manshaft area access road under this section. Surface runoff had passed from the road to the Creek.

Violation #3 cites the transport bridge at the main mine entry under this section. Coal falls through the bridge grating, directly into Grassy Trail Creek.

Catch ponds, which are still awaiting regulatory approval, have been constructed below the coarse refuse pile and the old waste pile. Runoff is temporarily controlled at the main complex. A permanent plan implementation is needed this summer, before snowfall begins.

During this inspection, we made an initial visit to the Slaughter Canyon portal. Mr. Huefner informed us that Slaughter is one of three separate man entry portals which are located apart from the main complex. Violations 5, 6, and 7 cited failures to control overland flow, to maintain the access road, and to pass runoff through ponds at the Slaughter Canyon portal. Assuming that environmental protection is similarly lacking at the other two man entries, the operator is now aware of his responsibilities in those areas.

NPDES permit #UT-0022942 expires on June 30, 1982. Surface water monitoring records for the permit discharges of mine water were reviewed. Small excesses in TSS were noted in the reports on two occasions since April 1979. These had not been specifically reported to EPA or the Health Division as excesses by Mr. Huefner. We informed him that it is a condition of his permit to note these excesses to the authorities. Surface water monitoring records for stations above and below the minesite were also reviewed.

Water right #28-812(91-231), for 2.22 second feet, has been assigned by the State Water Department for water encountered during mining.

There is a culvert which drains runoff from a small cemented man tunnel in the main complex area. This culvert discharges directly to Grassy Trail Creek. Little flow occurs through this culvert, as evidenced by the undisturbed nature of the bank below the culvert. However, a deference must be requested by the operator for lack of a sediment pond.

SUNNYSIDE MINE

717.20 Topsoil Handling and Revegetation

Due to the age of this mine, there is very little topsoil stockpiled.

Mr. Huefner has established a revegetative test plot on the mine under the guidance of the DOGM. Developments will be monitored by the operator. Some broadcast seeding has been done on a regraded portion of the man shaft site, and on the inactive lower access road below the man shaft site.

SUMMARY

OSM violation NOV 80-5-7-16, Violations 1-8 issued June 30, 1980, are outstanding.

State violations have been issued for items cited in NOV 80-5-7-16. Two other State violations from this inspection cite the need for runoff control berms at the man shaft site, and along the parking area and main complex above Grassy Trail Creek.

*Eileen Doherty*

*PDH*

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EILEEN DOHERTY  
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST