File: ACT/007/007
#7, 9

0075

KAISER COAL

KAISER COAL CORPORATION
Sunnyside Coal Mines
P.O. Box D
Sunnyside, Utah 84539
Telephone (801) 888-4421

RECEIVED
JUN 19 1985
DIVISION OF OIL
GAS & MINING

June 14, 1985

D. Wayne Hedberg
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

RE: Non-compliance notification
NPDES Permit UT-0022942
Sunnyside Mines, ACT/007/007
Carbon County, Utah

Dear Mr. Hedberg:

Please find enclosed a letter to Steve McNeal of the Utah State Board of Health concerning non-compliance with NPDES effluent standards on June 12, 13 and 14, 1985 for the 004 discharge.

The filter berm failure mentioned in the letter resulted from higher than normal water levels in the pond. There was not a failure of the pond embankments. Rehabilitation of the Clear Water Pond and Slurry Cell No. 1 will be conducted as soon as posible. Water from the Clear Water Pond will be pumped into Slurry Cell No. 2 or decanted if effluent standards can be attained. After removing the coal fines in Cell No. 1, the filter berms will be replaced. The new filters will be wider than before and the height of the outer embankments.

Additional information will be sent at your request.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas C Pearce

Douglas C Pearce
Mine Engineer

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June 14, 1985

Steven R. McNeal
Public Health Engineer
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
150 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2500

RE: Non-compliance notification
Kaiser Coal Corporation
NPDES Permit UT-0022942
004 Discharge

Dear Mr. McNeal:

During June 12, 13 and 14th 1985 the total suspended solids effluent standard was exceeded at the 004 discharge, NPDES Permit UT-0022942. Initial determination of non-compliance was from visual signs of sediments deposited in the discharge channel. Samples of the water were not taken until June 14, 1985 because flow had stopped before inspection. Results of the sample will be sent for your inspection upon reciept of labratory results.

The non-compliance problem was the result of a breach in a filtration berm in Slurry Cell No. 1 (SCN1) caused by higher than normal water levels. The breach allowed slurry water to discharge into the Clear Water Pond (CWP) without filtration. Water from the CWP then discharged into the Icelander Wash (004 discharge point). The problem was not found by mine personnel until notification by a passing motorist. The breach in the filtration dike was filled and the CWP discharge valve closed. The coal slurry water was diverted from SCN1 to the East Slurry Cell (ESC) June 13, 1985 after finding that the pond discharges were plugged. The ESC, a total containment pond, will be used until the CWP and SCN1 are rehabilitated.

The CWP discharge valve was opened the night of June 13, 1985 by a tenant farmer who uses the water for irrigation. Mine personnel closed the valve during an inspection the site with the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining on the morning of June 14, 1985. Water samples were taken at that time.

Further discharge will be prohibited until repairs are made to the CWP and SCN1, and effluent standards can be attained. Breaches of filtration berms will be prevented in the future

by reconstructing a wider filtration berm and not allowing water to reach critical levels in the slurry cell.

An estimate of the amount of water discharged is not posible because the time of breach and flow rate is unknown. Particulate content of the slurry is primarily coal fines. Chemical analysis will be provided in the labratory results.

Additional information will be sent at your request.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas C Pearce

Douglas C. Pearce
Mine Engineer

cc EPA
DOGM

KAISER COAL

KAISER COAL CORPORATION
Sunnyside Coal Mines
P.O. Box D
Sunnyside, Utah 84539
Telephone (801) 888-4421

June 14, 1985

EPA
Suite 103, 1860 Lincoln Street
Denver, Colorado 80295
Attn.: Water Management Division Compliance Branch

RE: Non-compliance notification
NPDES Permit UT-0022942
Sunnyside Mines
Kaiser Coal Corporation

Dear Sirs:

Please find enclosed a letter to Steve McNeal of the Utah State Board of Health concerning Non-compliance with NPDES effluent standards on June 12, 13, and 14, 1985 for the 004 discharge.

Additional information will be sent at your request.

Sincerely yours,

Douglas C Pearce

Douglas C Pearce
Mine Engineer