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September 11, 1989

TO: COAL FILE
FROM: BILL WARMACK, RECLAMATION SPECIALIST *WAW*
RE: CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT ON FUGITIVE DUST, SUNNYSIDE RECLAMATION AND SALVAGE, INC., SUNNYSIDE MINE, ACT/007/007, FOLDER #2, CARBON COUNTY, UT

SYNOPSIS

On September 6, 1989, I received an anonymous phone call regarding excessive amounts of dust that was being generated at the Sunnyside Mine. Following is a report of my findings during a site inspection on September 8, 1989.

ANALYSIS

Upon arriving at the mine site, I presented the complaint to Mr. Bill Balaz (SRS) and discussed several mitigation plans. Three probable sources of coal dust were identified as: 1) coal stockpile; 2) haul road; and, 3) refuse pile. After my discussion with Mr. Balaz, I inspected the mine site with Mr. Jim Watt (SRS).

I. COAL STOCKPILE

During the inspection, coal was being dropped from the conveyor chute onto the coal stockpile. Although a slight breeze was blowing down canyon, dust was not being generated at the time. However, coal fines were observed within the immediate area, especially on the northern embankment. Coal appeared to be fairly moist, even though water sprays are not utilized on the conveyor system or drop chute. Based on my observations of the coal stockpile, dust would be generated during: 1) train loading activities; and, 2) strong canyon winds.

II. HAUL ROAD

Mr. Watt explained that a new dust suppression agent is going to be used in conjunction with the water treatment. This combination should alleviate any future potential dust problems. The water truck is being modified to handle the new system.

II. HAUL ROAD (cont.)

According to Mr. Watt, the haul road is watered approximately 1-1/2 hours prior to morning shift. Throughout the day, the road is watered as required, usually four times per day. Prior to this inspection, the haul road from the tipple to the refuse pile had been watered. There was not any evidence of dust accumulations along the road, indicating road maintenance has been properly conducted.

III. REFUSE_PILE

The active storage area was inspected and did not appear as a significant source of dust. The site was well compacted and truck speeds in this area are usually slow to facilitate dumping. Mr. Watt stated that the coal fines which were removed from the slurry cell will be treated with the suppression agent to further control dust.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon my observations, SRS has taken the necessary steps to ensure that fugitive dust is controlled. Haul roads are frequently watered and plans are being formulated to utilize a chemical dust suppression agent along the road and on the slurry cell cleanout material. The inherent moisture and compaction of the refuse material reduces dust propagation during disposal.

The coal stockpile is very susceptible to canyon winds and train loading activities. The fixed height of the conveyor and the exposure of the stockpile may provide a significant source of coal fines during periods of strong winds. Contract restraints prevent the application of additional moisture, thus negating installation of water sprays on the drop chute. Further, additional moisture may increase the occurrences of spontaneous combustion. To control dust on the storage pad, travel and equipment operation should be minimized as operations permit.

Upon termination of this inspection, Mr. Balaz was informed of my findings and recommendations. As an additional note, SRS did not produce any coal on September 6, the same day I received the complaint. Also, according to my records, SRS is not regulated by an Air Quality permit.

c.c. PFO
Bill Balaz, SRS