



WATER QUALITY M E M O R A N D U M

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

December 22, 2021

TO: Internal File

THRU: Steve Christensen, Permit Supervisor 

FROM: Kendra Hinton, Environmental Scientist 

RE: 2nd Quarter 2021 Water Monitoring, Hiawatha Coal Company (HCC), Hiawatha Mine, C/007/0011, Task ID #6399

HCC has supplied schedules for water monitoring and parameter reporting in Tables 7-12 through 7-17, in the Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP), updated on October 11, 2011. Water monitoring locations can be found on Plates 7-1 and 7-2 in the Hiawatha MRP.

The Hiawatha Mine holds Utah Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) Permit #UT0023094 that was updated February 1, 2021. A total of 11 outfalls are permitted at the site. Two of these outfalls discharge consistently (D001 – Mohrland Mine Portal and D002 – Mine Discharge to Miller Creek). As of February 11, 2013, the Division has deactivated outfall locations D010 – the North Fork Vent Portal 4 and D013 – King Water Tank Overflow. These locations are still permitted outfalls under the Department of Environmental Quality- issued UPDES permit. Point D010 is a discharge from the King 4 mine ventilation portal that is currently inactive and Point D013 is from an overflow pipe from the King 6 unused water tank in South Fork Canyon.

The Hiawatha Mine is currently in temporary cessation. There is no underground mining taking place.

1. Was data submitted for all of the MRP required sites?

Springs YES NO NA

Not applicable. Currently, no spring locations are monitored. Hiawatha will resume monitoring of the springs listed on Table 7-17 two years prior to the startup of any underground mining activities.

Streams YES NO

HCC monitors 10 stream locations at/near the mine site, ST-1, ST-2, ST-2B, ST-3, ST-3A, ST-3B, ST-4, ST-4A, ST-4B, and ST-5. HCC currently monitors field parameters of streams on a monthly basis from May through August and the month of October. Operational sampling is required for April and September. All data for stream sample locations was provided for fourth quarter.

UPDES

YES NO

There are a total of 11 UPDES sample locations listed in Permit #UT0023094 for the Hiawatha Mine used to establish discharge quality. UPDES locations are monitored quarterly according to the permit. The UPDES locations D003 through D013 listed in the current UPDES permit typically do not discharge. All UPDES sample locations are outlined below:

Pond No.	Location
D001	Mohrland Portal
D002	Overflow at Hiawatha
D003	Upper Coal Storage Yard
D004	North of Slurry Pond No. 1
D006	North East of Slurry Pond No. 5
D008	Middle Fork Mine Yard
D009	South Fork Mine Yard
D010	King Mine 4 Discharge
D011	South Fork Truck Loading Facility
D012	Mohrland Pipeline Drain
D013	King 6 Water Tank Overflow

Monthly data UPDES locations D001 and D002 are reported for this quarter.

2. Were all required parameters reported for each site?

Springs YES NO

Not Applicable

Streams YES NO

UPDES YES NO

The flow rate of discharge from the Morhland portal discharge (UPDES D001) this quarter averaged 20 gallons per minute (gpm) while flow rates from the mine to Miller Creek (UPDES D002) averaged 130 gpm. Oil and grease, total suspended solids (TSS), total dissolved solids (TDS), pH, and total iron were either not detected, or within the acceptable UPDES permit limits.

3. Were irregularities found in the data?

The following are more than 2 standard deviations away from the mean:

Springs YES NO

Not applicable

Streams

YES NO

ST-2: SO4, T-Cats, T-Anis, Field Cond., D-Mg, D-Na

ST-2B: SO4, TDS, T-Cats, T-Anis, Field Cond., D-Ca, D-Mg, D-Na

Following the Seeley wild fire in 2012, numerous mud slides have occurred at the surface facilities, due to the burn scar being located directly above the mine sites. This causes certain sampling events (specifically following storms) to report extremely high suspended solids. The Permittee is handling the mud slides to the best of their ability and will continue their approved sampling program.

UPDES

YES NO

4. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.

No baseline sampling obligations are stipulated in the Hiawatha MRP.

5. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?

None.

6. Does the Mine Operator need to submit more information to fulfill this quarter's monitoring requirements?

No.

7. Follow-up from last quarter, if necessary.

NOV #21231 was issued because the operator failed to submit water monitoring data for second quarter 2021 on time. The NOV was terminated 10/28/2021 because the operator submitted the second quarter 2021 water monitoring data to the Division through the electronic database within one week of receiving the citation. No additional follow up is necessary.