Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/012

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: MARCH 28, 1984

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
C/ 007, 012, Internal
Refer to:
- ☐ **Confidential**
- ☐ **Shelf**
- ☐ **Expandable**

Date _____ For additional information

March 28, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Wellington Preparation Plant
U.S. Steel Corporation
ACT/007/012, File #7
Carbon County, Utah

DATE:	February 23 - 24, 1984
TIME:	2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
WEATHER:	Fair
COMPANY OFFICIALS:	Barbara Filas
STATE OFFICIAL:	Sandy Pruitt
FEDERAL OFFICIAL:	Frank Atencio
ENFORCEMENT ACTION:	NOV #N84-2-1-2

Compliance with Permanant Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

All required permits and a copy of the mine permit application and addendums were available for public inspection at the Wellington Plant Office. Since the last quarterly inspection U. S. Steel received approval dated October 18, 1983 for raising the Slurry Pond refuse dikes, in accordance with plans dated June 10, 1983.

U. S. Steel will submit an application to the Air Quality Bureau rather to obtain a burning permit to burn the scrap wood pile located at the north end of the permit area all at one time.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

All required signs and perimeter markers are appropriately placed.

UMC 817.23-.25 Topsoil

Topsoil and subsoil removed from the southern bank of the lower slurry pond and from the undisturbed area in line of the new undisturbed area drainage diversion is stockpiled in the approved storage site adjacent to the north ditch. The topsoil and subsoil was seeded last fall and nylon net was secured over the stockpile to minimize wind erosion. Straw bales were placed along the toe of the stockpiles.

UMC 817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

All runoff control measures were in a functional condition as usual. Prior to this inspection U. S. Steel was experiencing several problems in the plant which resulted in plant water discharge into the auxiliary pond which overflowed to the field ponds. The field ponds wer flowed over the surface and out of the basins onto bank. A week before this inspection straw bales we overflow section to provide emergency treatment of it reached the Price River. Water samples obtained by the straw bales were analyzed to contain 96 mg/l 2230 mg/l TDS before the bales and 137 mg/l TSS, 92 2206 mg/l TDS after the straw bales. There was no

File in:
☐ Confidential
☐ Shelf
☐ Expandable
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In C/ 007, 012, Internal
For additional information

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UMC 817.23-.25 Topsoil

Topsoil and subsoil removed from the southern bank of the lower slurry pond and from the undisturbed area in line of the new undisturbed area drainage diversion is stockpiled in the approved storage site adjacent to the north ditch. The topsoil and subsoil was seeded last fall and nylon net was secured over the stockpile to minimize wind erosion. Straw bales were placed along the toe of the stockpiles.

UMC 817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

All runoff control measures were in a functional condition as usual. Prior to this inspection U. S. Steel was experiencing several problems in the plant which resulted in plant water discharge into the auxiliary pond which overflowed to the field ponds. The field ponds were frozen so the discharge flowed over the surface and out of the basins onto the Price River stream bank. A week before this inspection straw bales were placed across the overflow section to provide emergency treatment of the overflow water before it reached the Price River. Water samples obtained before and after treatment by the straw bales were analyzed to contain 96 mg/l TSS, 62 mg/l volatile TSS, 2230 mg/l TDS before the bales and 137 mg/l TSS, 92 mg/l volatile TSS, and 2206 mg/l TDS after the straw bales. There was no discharge into the Price

River occurring at the time of this inspection, but icicles on the Price River stream bank along the overflow area (and nowhere else) indicated that a discharge into the Price River may have occurred.

During the afternoon inspection February 23, 1984 the plant was operational and there was no discharge from the auxiliary pond. The pump sump installed along the overflow ditch from the auxiliary pond to receive discharges from the Heat Dryer and pump it to the auxiliary pond was functional. There was still overflow to the field ponds. It was later discovered that this flow was caused by a water pipe line leaking into the overflow ditch.

Upon return to the plant at 9:00 a.m., February 24, 1984, the plant was down and discharging plant water at a rate approximately 15 to 20 gpm to the field ponds. The Heat Dryer was also discharging approximately 5 to 10 gpm. The pump sump was submerged and inoperational. The overflow from the field ponds had increased but was still passing through the straw bales. It appeared likely that the overflow would reach the Price River. NOV No 1 of 2, N84-2-1-2 was issued for inadequate sediment control facilities (UMC 817.42 (c), UMC 817.43 (c),(a), UMC 817.45, UMC 817.57 (a), UMC 827.12(n), UCA 40-10-17(2)(j)(ii)(A)). This violation applies to the discharge from the Heat Dryer and plant that was diverted to the field ponds and had overflowed the first pond in the series passing straw bales toward the Price River. The remedial action required that all discharges into the field ponds cease and be prevented no later then February 29, 1984.

Severe erosion of the Price River stream bank across from the field ponds was apparently caused by discharges through the slurry pipelines. Upon closer examination of the pipeline corridor several eroded areas started from the pipeline were apparent. Most of the gullies drained into a small depression for settling (evident by a deposition of coal fines in the basin) but there was a major breach in this basin which discharged into the Price River. NOV No. 2 of 2, N84-2-1-2 was issued for failure to minimize erosion to the extent possible (UMC 817.45, UCA 40-10-17-2(d)). The remedial action required the submittal of complete and adequate plans for the control of discharges through breaks in the pipeline in the area above the east bank of the Price River. Plans should be submitted no later then March 26, 1984 and implemented immediately upon DOGM approval.

UMC 817.81-.93 Coal Processing Wastes

Reports of Slurry Pond inspections from October 3, 1983 to February 1984 were examined at the plant office and found to be complete and in compliance.

Sandy Pruitt
Field Specialist

SP:re
cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Barbara Filas, Wellilngton Plant
Statistics: See C&W memo dated March 28, 1984
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