0015

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangerter
Governor
Dee C. Hansen
Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: June 17, 1992
11:15 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Soldier Creek Coal Co.
Business Address: P. O. Box I, Price, Utah 84501
Mine Name: Soldier Canyon Permit Number: ACT/007/018 County: Carbon
Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface_ Other_
Company Official(s): Tom Paluso State Officials(s): Paul Baker Federal Official(s): None
Partial: X Complete:_ Date of last Inspection: May 28, 1992
Weather Conditions: Clear, 70's
Acreage: Permitted- 4905 Disturbed- 24 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 1 Bonded- 24
Enforcement Action: None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
1. PERMITS	()	()	()	()
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	()	()	()	()
3. TOPSOIL	(X)	()	()	(X)
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	(X)	()	()	(X)
b. DIVERSIONS	(X)	()	()	()
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	()	()	()	()
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	(X)	()	()	(X)
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	()	()	()	()
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	()	()	()	()
5. EXPLOSIVES	()	()	()	()
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE & SPOIL	()	()	()	()
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE	()	()	()	()
8. NONCOAL WASTE	()	()	()	()
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	()	()	()	()
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	(X)	()	()	(X)
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	()	()	()	()
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	()	()	()	()
13. REVEGETATION	()	()	()	()
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	()	()	()	()
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	()	()	()	()
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	()	()	()	()
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	(X)	()	()	()
c. SURFACING	()	()	()	()
d. MAINTENANCE	()	()	()	()
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	()	()	()	()
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES AND UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	()	()	()	()
19. AVS INFORMATION	()	()	()	()

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

3. Topsoil

We found no signs of erosion on the topsoil pile near the sediment pond. At the new topsoil piles near the proposed waste rock disposal area, vegetation is becoming well established, especially in the pock marks on the sides. There are some minor rills on a few of the piles, but these are expected since they were only seeded last fall. Mr. Paluso said that these would be repaired and one area where some runoff from the top of a pile was concentrating would have a small berm constructed.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Stream Channel Diversions

In the side canyon above the shop and office area, there is a 30 inch culvert that carries drainage from undisturbed areas to the main stream channel. In a storm last month where about one inch of rain was received in about 20 minutes, the trash rack covering this culvert became plugged causing water to come down the sides and over the culvert which flooded the mine shop and some other areas. The company is planning to change the design of the trash rack and to put cement on the sides to help prevent this problem in the future. They are also considering construction of a sediment basin uphill from this culvert.

d. Other Sediment Control Measures

We looked at all of the alternate sediment control areas. After the large storm last month, some maintenance was required in a few areas as discussed below.

At the access road to the topsoil stockpiles near the proposed waste rock disposal site, runoff from the storm had apparently gone over the top of the road and washed away some gravel and larger rocks and some other fill material exposing part of the west side of one of the culverts. These culverts are designed to handle flow from a 100 year 6 hour precipitation event and showed no signs of being blocked. Mr. Paluso stated that increased flow had come because a county road culvert had not been maintained. He stated that he would be speaking with the county about the problem, and maintenance work will be done on the south side of the access road. This same type of problem occurred last August right before an oversight inspection after which an additional culvert was installed and repair work performed.

On the south side of the sewage lagoons there is an area that is riprapped between an overflow pipe and the undisturbed drainage area. There is no indication that the overflow pipe has discharged, but part of the riprapped area has eroded down to the level of the natural drainage and would probably continue to erode back to the overflow pipe. It is not a serious problem, and there do not appear to be additional contributions to sediment compared to what would occur naturally, but Mr. Paluso said that the company would perform necessary work to try to avoid future problems in this area.

At the site of fan #3, some of the straw bales that had been placed in the ditch along the county road for sediment control had, according to Mr. Paluso, been pushed out of the way by county road crews doing maintenance on the ditch. It appeared that most of the sediment from this area was controlled by other straw bales that were still intact. At one location, sediment was within 6" of the top of the bales, and this needs to be removed so that the bales can function properly.

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/018 DATE OF INSPECTION: June 17, 1992

The company plans to dig a catch basin at the bottom of the road but had been waiting for Division approval. I called the Division office during the inspection and received verbal approval for this work. Written approval should be forthcoming.

10. Slides and Other Damage

Parts of the netting and mulch on the cut slope for the county road that was relocated last year had been washed to the bottom of the slope. The netting had not yet been put back but needs to be for erosion control. This area was seeded last fall with the permanent seed mix, but there is not enough vegetation to control erosion, especially on this 1h:1v slope. Areas where the matting was still in place appeared to be relatively stable.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Tom Paluso (Soldier Creek), Bernie Freeman (OSM)

Given to: Daron Haddock, Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: PBB Paul B. Baker #41 Date: June 22, 1992