



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: Complete: Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: September 11, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Date of Last Inspection: August 2, 7, 13 & 21 1996

Mine Name: Gordon Creek Mines 2, 7 & 8 County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/016

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Mountain Coal Company

Business Address: P.O. Box 591 Somerset, Colorado 81434

Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Prep. Plant Other

State Official(s): David W. Darby

Company Official(s): Dan Guy

Federal Official(s): Gene Hay and Dennis Winterringer (OSM-WRCC)

Weather Conditions: Clear and sunshine for first two weeks of the month and rain the later two weeks

Existing Acreage: Permitted- 2289 Disturbed- 17.2 Regraded- Seeded- Bonded- 17.2

Increased/Decreased: Permitted- Disturbed- Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-

Status: Exploration/ Active/ Inactive/ Temporary Cessation/ Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (Phase I/ Phase II/ Final Bond Release/ Liability Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
 - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) _____ (date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/016

DATE OF INSPECTION: September 11, 1996

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

GENERAL COMMENTS

Reclamation activities continued through the month of September. The centers of activity is at and below the #7 and mine. The fill material is built up at the #7 Mine to the MSHA bench. This elevation for backfill was agreed to by the applicant and regulatory authorities to establish an acceptable stability factor. A highwall is left at the site. An extensive amount of excavation took place at the site and it would be virtually impossible to backfill to eliminate the highwall without promoting instability of the slope. The draw behind the #7 Mine fill pile was being excavated to grade. More work was needed to finish the side slopes and channel configuration.

Gene Hay and Dennis Winterringer visited the site on their oversite tour to observe the highwalls and evaluate them according to the Approximate Original Contour (AOC) Directive, Tech-002. The whole site was toured because of their interest in the reclamation process. I pointed out the rock drain feature at #7 Mine and described that coal waste material still in the channel of the #2 Mine that would have to be removed and replaced with another stable material. All comments for the oversite visit were discussed in a meeting of October 16, 1996.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Diversions

I mentioned to Dan that the ditches along the side of the access road and the water bar crossing the road at the access gate should be cleaned out in the event that future storms would cause increased flows. Travel of vehicles had worn down the water bar that transports water from the north side of the road across the road to the sedimentation ponds. He had the contractor down working on the site by the time we left.

b. Sedimentation Ponds

The sedimentation ponds were functioning. Early rains had caused pore working condition with mud everywhere. All runoff was collected at the bottom of the site in the sedimentations. Pond 2 was not in use since all flow was routed to the new ponds.

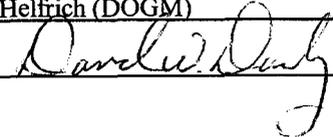
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING

While at the site a trackhoe was working on the drainage below the #8 mine, shaping the slope and excavating the main channel to grade. Sand and gravel for a filter blanket and riprap was stored just below the trackhoe ready for installation. Equipment was still working on the #7 mine slope. Randy Harden mentioned to Dan the more material should be pushed from the slope to the rock face to make the upper edge of the fill blend in to the slope. The contractor had ran a dozer around the top of the fill where it intersected the highwall to compact the fill. By pushing material off the face up to the escarpment the contact would look more natural.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: James Fulton (OSM/Denver), Paige Beville (MCC), Dan Guy (Blackhawk Engineering)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature:  David W. Darby #47 Date: 10/14/96