



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

gph

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: X Complete: Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: November 28, 1997
Date of Last Inspection: October 23, 1997

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 X Surface Prep. Plant Other
State Official(s): David Darby
Company Official(s): Dan Guy
Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Overcast, 3" snow on the ground
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 2289 Disturbed- 17.2 Regraded- 17.2 Seeded- 17.20 Bonded- 17.2
Increased/Decreased: Permitted- Disturbed- Regraded- Seeded- Bonded-
Status: Exploration/ X 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

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - a. 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.
 - b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/016

DATE OF INSPECTION: November 28, 1997

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

General Comments

This visit to the minesite served two purposes. One was to conduct the scheduled monthly inspection, and the other was to evaluate final reconstruction of the reclamation structures damaged by heavy storms that hit the area in September. The operator received NOV N97-47-2-3 which required mitigation action for reclamation structures. A recent snowstorm fell over the area and the minesite acquired about 4 inches of fresh snow. The covering made the inspection a little more laborious by obscuring features, and it was harder walking about the site.

As I approached the gate, I noticed that the contractors had gouged the access road indicating that all work was complete and that there were no further intentions of going back into the site. The trackhoe operator had really gouged the surfaces areas this time. As I stood in the bottom of one of the pock holes on the access road, the adjacent mogul came up to my chest. The pockets created by the gouge would trap greater volumes of runoff than before.

Dan Guy met me on site later where we were able to discuss the operation. He had been to a meeting and told me I could go up on site and look around. Reconstruction work was finalized on November 1, 1997.

4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:

a. DIVERSIONS

I checked the reconstructed channels and dug through the snow in several areas to check the riprap size. The contractor had use a larger size riprap in the channel this time (pictures were taken). The channels are restored to sufficient standards to terminated Part 1 of the NOV.

b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The upper cell of the sedimentation pond was about $\frac{1}{4}$ full of water and ice. No water was flowing out of the spillway or contained in the middle pond. There was no flow into the pond. The upper pond exhibited substantial accumulations of sediment in its upper end as a result of recent storms.

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

David W. Darby #47 Date: 12/15/97

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c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

I checked the gabion structures. They were reworked after the last inspection. The forward parts of the rock weirs had been reenforced with metal rods and heavy wire mesh. The areas behind the rock weirs were excavated to help retain runoff events. The structures had been reconstructed to desired standards to terminate the NOV.

12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING

The trackhoe operator had gouged the areas identified in Part 3 of the NOV with a trackhoe. All the roads, rilled areas and specified surface areas had been reworked with a large trackhoe. The areas where ripping had followed the slope was gouged with the trackhoe creating a better, highly roughened surface for holding runoff and preventing rilling. After observing the areas specified in Part 3 of the NOV, I thought the operator restored the surfaces to sufficient standards to terminated the NOV.

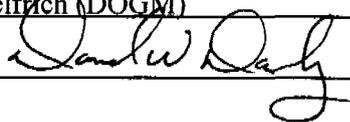
I asked Dan if he had information about the culvert discovered in Right Fork. The culvert was installed in 1980 to protect the channel from subsidence after a section of the channel caved into the mine. Mountain Coal Company indicated they wanted to leave the corrugated steal culvert in place. The division is allowing Mountain Coal Company to present information to justify leaving the culvert before a decision is finalized. Dan mentioned that he was trying to get the land owner to look at the culvert and site. So far they had not been able to set up a meeting, but expected landowner to look at it soon.

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Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: _____



David W. Darby #47 Date: 12/15/97