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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial:___ Complete: _X_ Exploration:___
Inspection Date & Time: June 03, 1997
Date of Last Inspection: May 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 Officials(s): David Darby
Company Official(s): Dan Guy
Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Clear, cloudy
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 2289 Disturbed- 17.2 Regraded- 7.1 Seeded- 7.1 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	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2.	SIGNS AND MARKERS	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
3.	TOPSOIL	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
4.	HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a.	DIVERSIONS	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
b.	SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
c.	OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
d.	WATER MONITORING	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
e.	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
5.	EXPLOSIVES	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
6.	DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
7.	COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
8.	NONCOAL WASTE	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
9.	PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
10.	SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
11.	CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
12.	BACKFILLING AND GRADING	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
13.	REVEGETATION	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
14.	SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
15.	CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
16.	ROADS :				
a.	CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
b.	DRAINAGE CONTROLS	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
17.	OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
18.	SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
19.	AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____(date)	[ ]	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
20.	AIR QUALITY PERMIT	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
21.	BONDING & INSURANCE	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet) Page 2 of 2
PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/016 DATE OF INSPECTION: June 03, 1997
(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

GENERAL COMMENTS

I met Dan at the minesite with two purposes in mind. One was to assess the problems with the sedimentation pond and report to Randy Harden my findings to determine remedial measures. The other reason was to devise a system to better control runoff and sediment along the access road below the entry gate.

4b. Sedimentation Ponds and Impoundments

The flow to the sedimentation pond had reduced since the last visit to about 100 gallons per minute. The upper cell was completely full. Water was still seeping out of the middle embankment and flowing over its spillway. I was not around to witness the flows from recent showers during the past week.

An evaluation of the pond revealed that part of the embankment was formed from a somewhat less compatible road fill material. The fill material was used as a road base, building over the old. At their interface water flowing into the pond enters the less porous roadfill and follows the contact line where it discharges along the exposed surface of the pond. The old road interface intercepts the upper cell almost at the top part of the cell. It intercepts the middle cell about one third of the way down from the top of the cell, and the bottom cell about one third from the base of the cell.

This information was taken back to the office and discussed with Randy Harden.

4c. Other Sediment Control Measures

An evaluation of the silt fences showed that continuous problems could exist if the current system was used without constant maintenance. Multiple rainstorms seemed to fill the small area behind the fence filling it with sediment and flowing around the edges of the upper fences.

Dan and I discussed the problem and decided to try to resolve the situation by employing rock gabions instead of silt fences. The area behind the rock gabions structures would be excavated deeper and a little wider to contain more sediment. Sediment would fill the voids between the rock, but allow the water to filter through. In the event of extensive or multiple precipitation occurances. I sketched the sites I thought would be the best location for the structures. Since time was limited I told Dan that he should send a letter identifying the development and implementation of the structures. Dan would also have to submit plans to be incorporated as an amendment to the plan.

5. Explosives

Dan had been in contact with Pete Hess to discuss blasting of the monolithic bridge structure. Pete mentioned that the strucutre could be blasted if less than 5 pounds of explosives were used. Mel indicated that less than 5 lbs of explosives would be needed.

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: 06/26/97