0003

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

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Kathleen Clarke
Executive Director
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
PO Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-7223 (TDD)

INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: X Complete: ___ Exploration:___
Inspection Date & Time: April 9, 1999
Date of Last Inspection: February 5, 1999

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): None
Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Clear, cool
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 2289 Disturbed- 0 Regraded- 17.2 Seeded- 17.2 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	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
2.	SIGNS AND MARKERS	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
3.	TOPSOIL	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
4.	HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a.	DIVERSIONS	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
b.	SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	[X]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
c.	OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	[ ]	[ ]	[X]	[ ]
d.	WATER MONITORING	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
e.	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
5.	EXPLOSIVES	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
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	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
10.	SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
11.	CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	[ ]	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
12.	BACKFILLING AND GRADING	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
13.	REVEGETATION	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
14.	SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
15.	CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
16.	ROADS:				
a.	CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
b.	DRAINAGE CONTROLS	[X]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
17.	OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	[ ]	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
18.	SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	[ ]	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
19.	AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____(date)	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
20.	AIR QUALITY PERMIT	[ ]	[X]	[ ]	[ ]
21.	BONDING & INSURANCE	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet) Page 2 of 2
PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/016 DATE OF INSPECTION: April 9, 1999

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

GENERAL COMMENTS

I called Dan Guy to disclose that I was going to conduct an inspection of the minesite when I arrived in Price. He had made previous plans and could not attend the inspection and could not find a substitute. I told him I would contact him if I found any discrepancies during the inspection.

There were intermittent snow flurries and sunshine occurring the inspection. There was very little snow on the ground, about 60% of the soil was exposed so access into the property was good. I hiked up to the area just below the #7 reclaimed mine pad, past the #2 reclaimed mine pad where I could see the slopes and areas of all the mines.

2. Signs and Markers

The signs were intact on the main entry fence identifying the minesite and "No Trespassing " status.

3. Topsoil

There appeared to be no erosion since the last reconstruction, which ended around November 20, 1998. The warm spell in February melted most of the snow. It had been a moderate winter at the site so far. Unless heavy spring storms occur there is a good chance most of the soils will remain intact for good vegetation growth.

4. Hydrologic Balance

The applicant was asked to supply information on the as-built designs, only cross-sections were submitted. Concerns were previously expressed over the shallowness of second undisturbed drainage channel above the gate. I took a rough measurement (rod and tape) of the channel at what appeared the shallowest site. The depth was approximately 6 inches deep (maximum depth) and the channel was about 6 feet wide. Perennial channels are only required to pass a flow of 2 year- 6 hour for reclamation channels. The applicant still has to submit complete as-built designs for the reconstructed undisturbed diversions.

a. Sediment Pond and Impoundments

The sedimentation pond was empty in the lower and middle cells and about one-third full in the upper cell. A thin sheen of ice was on the water due to the cold. Only a small amount of water was flowing into the pond. It appeared clear indicating no current erosion.

c. Other Sediment Control Structures

I checked the rock weir structures along the road below the gate. All appeared to be clean and functioning properly.

Copy of this Report:
Mailed to: James Fulton (OSM/Denver), Chris Hansen (CFC), Dan Guy (Blackhawk Engineering)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: David Darby #47 Date: April 16, 1999