



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

Handwritten initials/signature

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INSPECTION REPORT

Partial:___ Complete: X Exploration:___
Inspection Date & Time: 12/17/99 10 to 12
Date of Last Inspection: 11/17/99

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 Mine
State Officials(s): Susan White
Company Official(s): Dan Guy Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Fair and cold
Existing Acreage: Permitted-2286 Disturbed-20.3 Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded-___
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-___ Disturbed-___ Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded-___
Status: Active

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.

Table with 5 columns: Item, EVALUATED, N/A, COMMENTS, NOV/ENF. Rows include PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE; SIGNS AND MARKERS; TOPSOIL; HYDROLOGIC BALANCE; DIVERSIONS; SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS; etc.

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Snow covered the site, only the lower portion of the site from the road was looked at.

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

UPDES permit #UTG04004 has one discharge point, 001A. The permit expires April 30, 2001.

The permit was renewed August 28, 1999. One condition was attached to the permit as follow:

“Mountain Coal Company, LLC will submit water quality data electronically to the Division for the Gordon Creek #2, #7 and #8 Mine beginning with data for the fourth quarter of 1999.”

Ken Wyatt, Division Hydrologist, stated that data had been submitted electronically, however sampling points that were dry were omitted from the electronic submission. Dry sites must be included in the electronically submitted data.

4. Hydrologic Balance:

a. **Diversions:** Diversions were covered with snow.

b. **Sediment Ponds and Impoundments:** Third quarter pond inspection was completed by Dan Guy on August 17, 1999. 2/7/8 Sediment Pond, Jacobs Pond, and Sweets Pond were included in the inspection.

c. **Other Sediment Control Measures:** Strawbales will be placed within the disturbed area to treat runoff from the Fan Portal area. At the time of the inspection the ground was frozen and some snow was on the ground making proper installation difficult.

d. **Water Monitoring:** Field samples for the third quarter water monitoring were taken on August 17, 1999. Confusion exists concerning water monitoring points 2-2-W and 2-11-W. The permit states that until Phase I bond release flow will be reported monthly from point 2-2-W. Flow was reported monthly from 2-2-W until March 1999, then reported quarterly, (June and August), thereafter. The August 17, 1999 flow was reported at 15 CFS. This flow rate is much greater than ever reported for this site. Upon Operator follow-up (delayed due to the Holidays) flow data was obtained monthly for site 2-2-W and is currently being submitted to the Division.

Historically, 2-11-W was a monitoring point in the left fork of Bryner Canyon somewhere near the current reclaimed #7 Mine. This point was not monitored after 1984, except twice in 1993 when no access was reported. Monitoring began again at this point in June 1999. 2-11-W is now listed as

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the inlet to 2/7/8 Sediment Pond. The permit states that 2-11-W, at the inlet to the pond, will begin monitoring after Phase I bond release.

e. Effluent Limitations: DMR's were submitted as required. No discharge was reported.

21. Bonding and Insurance: Liberty Mutual Insurance Company holds the \$641,443.00 bond. St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company carries a \$500,000 general liability coverage.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: OSM, Chris Hansen (CFC), Dan Guy (Blackhawk Engineering)

Given to: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: Susan M. White #35 Date: 1/12/00