



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

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10074

INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: X Complete: Exploration:
Inspection Date & Time: 8/23/00 / 1:30 to 4:00
Date of Last Inspection: 7/20/00

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): Joe Helfrich
Company Official(s): Dan Guy (Blackhawk), Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Sunny
Existing Acreage: Permitted-2286 Disturbed-20.3 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

- 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: EVALUATED, N/A, COMMENTS, NOV/ENF. Rows include: PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE; SIGNS AND MARKERS; TOPSOIL; HYDROLOGIC BALANCE; DIVERSIONS; SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS; OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES; WATER MONITORING; EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS; EXPLOSIVES; DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES; COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS; NONCOAL WASTE; PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES; SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE; CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION; BACKFILLING AND GRADING; REVEGETATION; SUBSIDENCE CONTROL; CESSATION OF OPERATIONS; ROADS; CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING; DRAINAGE CONTROLS; OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES; SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS; AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) (date); AIR QUALITY PERMIT; BONDING & INSURANCE.

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/016

DATE OF INSPECTION: 8/23/2000

(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

3. TOPSOIL:

For ease in reference, I have included the following two paragraphs from the previous inspection. There has been no change in the size or shape of the exposed areas since the inspection on 7/20/00.

“The main channel below Jacob’s pond has several pockets of exposed coal and coal waste material that contain greater than 50% coal fines. These include two exposed pockets in the lower channel and one pocket in the upper channel immediately below Jacob’s pond. The two lower pockets are principally on the north side of the channel and measure approximately 16 feet by 12 feet each. The upper pocket encompasses both sides of the channel and is more extensive than the lower pockets.

The technical staff recommended that if no further exposure of coal material occurs, the three exposed pockets of coal do not significantly impact reclamation. However, if exposure continues, then remedial action needs to occur to assess the extent of the coal contamination and to remove the coal contaminated material and to bury the material beneath four feet of clean fill.”

8. NONCOAL WASTE:

Dan indicated that the non-coal waste that had surfaced in numerous areas throughout the site would be picked up.

13. REVEGETATION:

Several musk thistle that were flowering had been sprayed according to Dan. However they had not been bagged.

16b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS:

Along the county road and outside the disturbed area are rock check dams structures that the mine installed many years ago and have maintained until last fall. Water impounded by the check dam had disappeared through a piping hole. The county had placed several cubic yards of gravel material in the piping hole. The barrier was still in place and it appeared as though some finish work needed to be done. Dan offered to check with the county.

NOTE: The research for the reduced inspection frequency at the Blazon mine was prioritized ahead of this inspection report.

Inspector's Signature:  #1 Date: September 6, 2000
Joseph C. Helfrich

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining.

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cc: James Fulton, OSM
Chris Hansen ,CFC
Dan Guy, Blackhawk Engineering
Price Field office
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