File

July 3, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement Folder

FROM: David Lof, Mining Field Specialist

RE: Soldier Creek Coal Company, Soldier Canyon Mine, ACT/007/018, Folder #7, Carbon County, Utah

On June 13, 1985, I conducted a partial inspection at the above mentioned mine site.

Sediment Pond Inlet and Binwall Construction

During my April 18, 1985 complete inspection, I informed Tom Paluso of Soldier Creek Coal Company, that the sediment pond inlet and binwall runoff controls which were approved by the Division on August 7, 1984 must be constructed by June 30, 1985.

At the time of this inspection, I found that the operators contractor (H. E. Lowdermilk Construction Company) was working on the runoff controls for the binwall. The contractor was in the process of installing conveyor belting along the edge of the binwalls to prevent runoff from going through the binwalls and displacing fill from behind the binwall. In addition, they were in the process of constructing a culvert downspout system which will collect runoff from the top of the binwalls and convey it in a controlled manner to the sediment pond. Due to the work being done, there was an accumulation of excess fill which I told the operator they could use to fill in the rills and gullies on the downslope from the road to the sediment pond. Dave Spillman, of Soldier Creek Coal Company who inspected the project with me assured me that Lowdermilk would have the work completed by June 30, 1985.

Sediment Pond, NOV N85-4-15-1

This violation was issued on May 2, 1985 for the operators failure to mine in accordance with their approved interim permit, and for failure to construct and maintain the sediment pond embankment to ensure proper embankment top width and side slope gradient. The operator was required to submit complete plans to the Division to bring the sediment pond in compliance with UMC 817. 46 (l) and UMC 817.46 (m) by May 20, 1985 and to complete the implementation of the plans within 30 days of Division approval.

On May 20, 1985, the Division received information from the operator reqarding the sediment pond embankment. This information was reviewed and deficiency letter was sent from the Division on May 30, 1985. The letter required that all information requested by submitted to the Division on, or before, July 1, 1985.

When I arrived at the mine site, Dave Spillman and Tom Paluso were in the process of surveying the sediment pond for the purpose of responding to the May 30, 1985 letter. They told me that they had

some problems and concerns with some of the information requested in the deficiency letter. I recommended to them that they call the Division Technical staff members who prepared the deficiency letter and discuss their concerns with them since I was not familiar enough with the concerns which the Technical staff wanted addressed.

While discussing the sediment pond embankment with Mr. Spillman and Mr. Paluso, they told me that they would probably propose a plan to widen and extend the embankment at its narrowest point into the stream channel. They explained that they would pull some of the riprap from the stream toward the sediment pond embankment and bring in fill material to place on top of the riprap inorder to widen the embankment.

Runoff Controls

The disturbed area runoff diversion along the perimeter of the mine site was adequately maintained to control the design runoff event. However, there was still a small amount of material which had been deposited in the diversion that should be cleaned out. I pointed this out to Mr. Spillman at the time of the inspection.

Fugitive Dust

The only apparent fugitive dust problem area on the mine site is in the coal loading yard. The problem is with dust accumulated on the yard surface itself, not with the loading facilities (tipple). I suggested to Mr. Spillman that they water the loading yard area a couple of times a day using either a water truck, rain bird sprinkler system, or the equivalent.

re

cc: Dave Spillman, Soldier Creek Coal
Donna Griffin, OSM,
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Statistics:

Vehicle : EX 49611, 491 miles
Per Diem: 1 person X 1 day 6 hours = $53.00
Grant: A&E

0290Q 1-2