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STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oil, Gas & Mining

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Norman H. Bangerter, Governor  
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director  
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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**INSPECTION REPORT**

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: November 16, 1988  
8:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Permittee and/or Operators Name: Soldier Creek Coal Company  
Business Address: P.O. Box I Price, Utah 84501  
Mine Name: Soldier Canyon Permit Number: ACT/007/018  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground  Surface  Other   
County: Carbon State: Utah  
Company Official(s): Chris Allen  
State Official(s): Daron Haddock  
Partial:  Complete:  Date of Last Inspection: October 12, 1988  
Weather Conditions: clear and cold  
Acreage: Permitted 4348 Disturbed 12 Regraded          Seeded          Bonded 32.2  
Enforcement Action: None

**COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
1. <u>PERMITS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
2. <u>SIGNS AND MARKERS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
3. <u>TOPSOIL</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
4. <u>HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:</u>				
a. <u>STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
b. <u>DIVERSIONS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
c. <u>SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
d. <u>OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
e. <u>SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
f. <u>EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
5. <u>EXPLOSIVES</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>
6. <u>DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE AND SPOIL</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
7. <u>COAL PROCESSING WASTE</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>
8. <u>NONCOAL WASTE</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
9. <u>PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND     RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
10. <u>SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>
11. <u>CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
12. <u>BACKFILLING AND GRADING</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
13. <u>REVEGETATION</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
14. <u>SUBSIDENCE CONTROL</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>
15. <u>CESSATION OF OPERATIONS</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>
16. <u>ROADS</u>				
a. <u>CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
b. <u>DRAINAGE CONTROLS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
c. <u>SURFACING</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
d. <u>MAINTENANCE</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
17. <u>OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>
18. <u>SUPPORT FACILITIES</u>				
<u>UTILITY INSTALLATIONS</u>	<u>( X )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>	<u>( )</u>

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/018

DATE OF INSPECTION November 16, 1988

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. PERMITS:

Soldier Creek Coal Company received permit ACT/007/018 on February 3, 1987. All 6 attached stipulations were signed-off as of October 30, 1987.

A rider was attached to the operator's reclamation bond held by Federal Insurance Company on August 27, 1987, increasing the bond from \$522,592 to \$577,000 and from 12 acres covered to 32.2 acres covered. This was done to include the waste rock disposal site although no disturbance has occurred at this site as yet.

Liability insurance was checked and shows a policy held by Travelers Indemnity Company in effect until cancelled.

The operators certificate of water rights (#25778) was reviewed and shows 1/4 cfs of water assigned to California Portland Cement Company filed and recorded in Carbon County on October 4, 1974.

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS:

Mine I.D. signs, topsoil markers, buffer zone signs, and Perimeter markers were all in place.

4b. DIVERSIONS:

Mine diversions were all clear with no problems encountered. A small amount of run off from recent snow melting was all reporting to the sediment pond via prescribed routes.

4c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS:

No problems were noted at the sediment pond which only had a very small amount of water in it. A check of the operators pond inspection reports show both the sediment pond and the sewage lagoons have been inspected quarterly and no problems have been noted. Pond certifications for both the sediment pond and the sewage lagoons were done March 24, 1988 by J. Tom Paluso, Registered Professional Engineer.

4e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING:

Records for surface and groundwater monitoring appear to be in order for the third quarter of 1988. The operator appears to be taking measurements and samples of surface streams, in-mine groundwater, springs, and wells as required in the monitoring plan.

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4f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS:

Discharge Monitoring reports show the only discharge from the mine during 3rd quarter 1988, was at Point 003 which was within the effluent limitations of the NPDES Permit.

The NPDES Permit expired September 30, 1987 but is still in effect because the operator made a timely application for renewal.

8. NONCOAL WASTE:

The operator has a current Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan which is located in Section 4.4.4 of the MRP.

All trash is placed in dumpsters and then taken to a landfill. Old equipment and machinery is salvaged or sold as scrap. Waste oil is sent off to be re-refined or used as heating oil.

9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES:

While looking at NPDES Discharge Point 003 it was noticed that Soldier Creek stream bed appears to have a darker coloring at the discharge point and below. Upon closer examination there appears to be a blackish coating on the stream substrate. Green algae is also prevalent below the discharge point while it appears to be absent above. Concerns were voiced with Mr. Allen who suggested an examination further up stream. We drove to Pine Canyon and observed the stream which has sulfur springs entering at this point.

Some algae appears in the stream at this point but the substrate coating is white rather than black. We then examined the stream at locations below the mine discharge.

Near the mine sediment pond the stream still had a blackish substrate coating and algae is present although it appears to be not as prevalent.

Further downstream in the vicinity of the sewage lagoons, there is no evidence of the algae or black substrate.

Mr. Allen was informed that further investigation of the stream should be carried out. A division hydrologist has been contacted and further studies and sampling of this stream will take place next week to determine the cause of the algae and black coating.

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11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION:

The operator has pretty much completed the exploratory drilling project across from the current mine. Because the project was done on an old existing road, little disturbance actually took place. A few small piles of soil and earth material need to be replaced and the drill holes plugged. The operator plans to do the plugging and backfilling but may redisturb the area again next year. The operator has plans to construct some new portals somewhere along the road cut possible next spring in order to bring a new belt line out of the mine.

14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL:

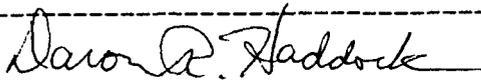
A ground subsidence survey was conducted earlier this year but data has not been reduced as yet.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Chris Allen

Mailed to SLC for: Brian Smith, OSM; Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Filed to: PFO



Inspectors Signature and Number: Daron R. Haddock #28 Date: Nov. 21, 1988