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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

007
gd

Norman H. Bangarter
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801-538-5340

INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: 8/14+15/91
8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Soldier Creek Coal Company
Business Address: P. O. Box 1, Price, Utah 84501 Ph: 637-6360
Mine Name: Soldier Canyon Mine Permit Number: ACT/007/018
Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Other
County: Carbon Company Official(s): John Pappas, Tom Paluso
State Official(s): Priscilla Burton, Paul Baker
Federal Official(s): Jeff Zingo
Partial: Complete Date of last Inspection: 7/25/91
Weather Conditions: Sunshine, 80's, afternoon thundershowers
Acreage: Permitted 4,905 Disturbed 18.3 Regraded
Seeded Bonded 22.8 Enforcement Action: None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

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

INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 2 of 5 PERMIT: ACT/007/018 DATE: 8/14/91

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits

Soldier Creek Coal Co. (SC3) received approval to begin construction of the topsoil storage site (amendment ACT/007/018-90-1) on May 28, 1991.

SC3 received Permit Revision approval for the surface facilities expansion/haulroad relocation on July 19, 1991. The revised Permit was signed and returned to the Division on July 30, 1991. The public was notified via newspaper advertisement on August 5, 1991.

Further activity at the site is due to the construction of an above-ground fuel storage tank facility (approval dated 4/15/91).

Other approvals recently given to SC3 were for:

Drilling of monitoring wells for collecting data at the Waste Rock site - 3/14/91;

Repositioning of power poles to facilitate the road relocation - 4/24/91.

A reclamation agreement was signed 5/02/91 between D.O.G.M. and Soldier Creek Coal Company. The Agreement revised the disturbed acreage from 36.4 to 22.8 acres and maps 5.1-2 {Central Mine Facilities} and 6.1-1 {Sewage Lagoon Topsoil Storage Area} were included to show the extent of disturbance.

A rider to surety bond #8107-037-63 was written and signed April 16, 1991 from Federal Insurance Company (New Jersey), in the amount of \$1,940,000.00.

The liability insurance company is policy #TLJSLG-186T908-A-91 effective January 1, 1991 through Traveler's Indemnity Company (Connecticut). The Acord certificate is in compliance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Division's letter dated June 17, 1991. SC3 revised Exhibit "D" and submitted the "Acord" form on July 30, 1991.

SC3 has made payment to the Utah Air Conservation Committee (as requested) prior to receipt of an Air Quality Approval Order. The notice of intent can be found in Volume 8 (Surface Facilities Expansion) of the Mining and Reclamation Plan. **When received, SC3 must provide the Division with a copy of the Approval Order.**

2. Signs and Markers

The new sign installed at the Topsoil site lists the address of the mine as P.O. Box 1, Price Utah. Actually, the P.O. Box number is I. This error was noted to Mr. Pappas who indicated that the sign would be corrected.

3. Topsoil

Although the rain gauge and observations at the mine site did not indicate heavy rain, on the evening of August 13, the vicinity of the topsoil storage site received a downpour. By all accounts, it was alot of water in a short amount of time. Mr. Paluso was certain that an event in exceedence of the design storm (10 year/24 hour) had occurred. During our inspection, preliminary survey information from the culverts and drainages were "faxed" to Rick Summers, Division hydrologist. The preliminary information appeared to indicate that the event exceeded the design. Soldier Creek Coal was asked to further substantiate the design event (within ten days of the date of inspection) through more extensive surveys of the drainages in the topsoil area. Further, it was strongly recommended that a rain gauge be installed at the site.

The topsoil storage site remains in the construction phase (see Exhibit 6.1-2 in Vol 9). Topsoil from the road relocation project is still being transported to the site. A low roll berm has been installed at the site to contain water and allow access for equipment during construction. This berm will be maintained during construction and built according to design standards when construction is through.

The storm event brought offsite drainage and county road drainage rushing towards the topsoil storage site access road where there is an 18" culvert. The road and culvert were overtopped. The outslope of the road and the silt fence were washed out. All of the damage was done within the permit boundary on the County Right of Way of the access road. Water and sediment entered Mr. Molares' irrigation ditch, but did not block the flow of water through the ditch. As a result of this event, Soldier Creek Coal Co. has determined that the approved diversion design is inadequate for the topography of the land. Within ten days of the date of inspection, Soldier Creek Coal Company will submit to the Division a new design and narrative addressing the construction of diversions at the access road to the topsoil storage site. Construction of the site is expected to take until the end of September. SC3 is reminded that the Bureau of Land Management stipulated that no construction will occur from mid-November through mid-May.

4.b. Diversions

The main facilities canyon diversions were clear and dry. After a downpour the evening of August 14, it was noted that all diversions were functioning as designed.

4.d. Other Sediment Control Measures

South of the REI access road (see Exhibit 10.1.1-1, Vol 8), the streambanks are laden with silt. Rainstorms have cut foot deep banks in the sediment. The source of this sediment is from non-mine activity or natural sloughage of the stream bank. There was no evidence of mine activity upstream of the fan site.

Overburden is mounded at the portal face, to be used as backfill around the portals. When the backfilling is accomplished, a diversion ditch will be cut to collect undisturbed water flow from the slopes above. At present this area is treated with straw bales.

4.e. Surface and Ground H₂O Monitoring

Surface monitoring is done four times a year: February, May, August and November for the parameters listed in Section 4-69 of the MRP. The results of analyses performed during the first quarter of 1991 were submitted to the Division on July 18, 1991. Mr. Pappas was preparing to ship the samples collected for the month of August.

In February site G1 was inaccessible and site G2 was frozen. Both G1 (in Pine Creek Canyon) and G2 (in Soldier Creek Canyon) were sampled on May 15, 1991. The pH of G2 was 7.9 and that of G2 was 8.88. A sample taken from site G5 (downstream of the mine) had a pH of 8.98.

All springs are sampled as per section 4-69 of the permit. No springs were flowing during the February sampling. Springs were sampled on May 14 and 15, 1991. Springs #5, #8, #10 were moist. The pH of these springs varied from 7.9 to 8.8. Springs #3, #4, #15, #18, and #21 were dry.

In mine ground water was sampled for flow, pH, conductivity and temperature during May at points UG-1N, UG-10E and UG-11E. The pH of these waters in May ranged between 8.13 to 8.51 (similar to the February measurements). Of these three points UG-11E is sampled for field parameters monthly and is the source of the majority of the water discharged at MW1 and MW2. A full analysis of UG-11E on 11/22/90 shows TDS to be 1,276 mg/L. At an output of 636 gpm this yields 4.8 tons TDS/day from the Blackhawk formation.

A discharge from NPDES point 001, MW-1 discharge, was sampled on March 23 and May 13, 1991. Twenty four hour flows were 288,000 gpm and 220,000 gpm, respectively.

A discharge from NPDES point 003, MW-2 discharge, was sampled on May 13, June 11, July 2, and July 9. Flows for a twenty four hour period ranged from 252,000 gpm in July to 645,913 gpm in August.

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PERMIT: ACT/007/018

DATE: 8/14/91

I sampled NPDES point 003 at approximately 2:30 p.m., the samples were taken directly from the discharge pipe and also from a flow emanating from below the discharge pipe, possibly due to a leak or piping from the main line. The samples were placed on ice and immediately taken to the laboratory for analysis of TDS and pH.

4.f. Effluent Limitations

The NPDES point source permit #UT0023680 was reissued on June 4, 1991. This permit requires monthly submittals of Discharge Monitoring Reports. No exceedences have been noticed since the total allowable TDS from all outfalls was increased to 5 Tons/day. This permit has 6 outfalls: 3 were added for the proposed waste rock topsoil and storage sites down canyon from the mine's central facilities. This permit expires 3/31/96. A copy of the new permit was obtained for the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

11. Contemporaneous Reclamation

At the main mine site (see Exhibit 10.1.1-1, Vol 8), the construction trailer located above the Questar pipeline (south of the new mine portals) had been removed. The area was being regraded in preparation for reseeding this Fall.

16.a & b. Construction and Drainage Controls on Roads

Alongside the County road crews are removing topsoil and carrying overburden from the cut slopes to fill in the pad which will eventually be the site of the relocated County road (see Exhibit 10.1.1-1, Vol 8). SC3 has instructed their Contractor that the ditch alongside the county road which directs run-off to ASCA #5 must be reformed at the end of each work day. The backfill will eventually fill in ASCA #5. When this occurs, SC3 will follow the approved methods for sediment control as stated in Volume 8 of the plan or they will confer with the Division hydrologist if any changes in the approved plan are necessary.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: John Kathmann (OSM); Johnny Pappas (SC3)

Given to: Joe Helfrich and Daron Haddock (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature & Number:  #37

Date: August 20, 1991



COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

GENERAL OFFICES: 1919 SOUTH HIGHLAND AVE., SUITE 210-B, LOMBARD, ILLINOIS 60148 • (708) 953-9300

Act 007/018

Folder # 5

SINCE 1908

Member of the SGS Group (Société Générale de Surveillance)

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1020, HUNTINGTON, UT 84528
TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311
FAX: (801) 653-2479

August 23, 1991

Job No.: 59 11438

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 15, 1991

Date Sampled: August 15, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

M-W-2
Lower Stream Side
Rec'd 1600 hr.
Sampled 1330 hr.

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING
3 TRAD CENTER
SUITE 350
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

WATER ANALYSIS

pH	7.70	Units	Solids, Dissolved	1019.0	mg/l
08-15-91			08-20-91		

ANALYST:

Jane Korman

Respectfully submitted,
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

W U

Manager, Huntington Laboratory



COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

GENERAL OFFICES: 1919 SOUTH HIGHLAND AVE., SUITE 210-B, LOMBARD, ILLINOIS 60148 • (708) 953-9300

Act/007/018

FOLDER #5

SINCE 1908

Member of the SGS Group (Société Générale de Surveillance)

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1020, HUNTINGTON, UT 84528
TELEPHONE: (801) 653-2311
FAX: (801) 653-2479

August 23, 1991

Job No.: 59 11439

Sample ID: DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Date Rec'd: August 15, 1991

Date Sampled: August 15, 1991

Sampled By: DOGM

Rec'd 1600 hr.
Sampled 1330 hr.

DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING
3 TRAD CENTER
SUITE 350
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84180

WATER ANALYSIS

pH	08-15-91	7.80	Units	Solids, Dissolved	1022.0	mg/l
				08-20-91		

ANALYST: *June Komar*

Respectfully submitted,
COMMERCIAL TESTING & ENGINEERING CO.

me
Manager, Huntington Laboratory