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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

*10/27/91
Joh*

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801-538-5340

INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: January 21, 1992
10:15 A.M. to 2:15 P.M.

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Soldier Creek Coal Company
Business Address: P. O. Box 1, Price, Utah 84501
Mine Name: Soldier Canyon Mine Permit Number: ACT/007/018 County: Carbon
Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Other
Company Official(s): Tom Paluso and Johnny Pappas State Officials(s): Paul Baker and Wayne Western Federal Official(s): None
Partial: Complete: Date of last inspection: December 16-17, 1991
Weather Conditions: Clear, 20's, About 4" of snow on ground in patches
Acreage: Permitted- 4905 Disturbed- 24 Regraded- 0 Seeded- ca. 1 Bonded- 24
Enforcement Action: None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

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

INSPECTION REPORT

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

3. Topsoil

We looked at the new topsoil storage area. According to Mr. Paluso and Mr. Pappas, additional topsoil had been salvaged from the fan site exploration. A total of about 690 cubic yards was salvaged from the 0.63 acre site.

4. Hydrologic Balance

a. Stream Channel Diversions

The culvert under the REI access road (not Soldier Creek's responsibility) has finally been cleared after the September storm that plugged it. There are still a few rocks in it, but no water is being impounded. Other stream diversions were clear.

b. Diversions

We checked other water diversion structures. Some of them had some ice and/or snow in them mixed with some coal fines. Soldier Creek was working to clean some of these by running water through them; however, we found nothing of a nature to warrant enforcement action.

c. Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

Modifications to the sediment pond have been completed. We checked the certified as-built drawings and a certified construction inspection statement which were sent to the Division January 20, 1992. We also looked at the work that was done on the pond, and both of the valves involved in the construction were locked. Mr. Paluso and Mr. Pappas both reassured us that the valves were locked in the proper positions.

f. Effluent Limitations

We checked fourth quarter NPDES reports, and there were no exceedances.

The water coming from the MW2 discharge into Soldier Creek was cloudy. Mr. Paluso stated that this was because of the presence of hydrogen sulfide, and he took us to the mouth of Pine Canyon where spring #10 is located. There was the distinct smell of H₂S at this site. We didn't have sampling bottles, but the next inspector should consider consulting with a hydrologist and sampling the water according to suggested parameters.

13. Revegetation

Seed containing the correct proportions of each species was used in the revegetation work that was done this past fall on the topsoil piles and on the road cut. ASCA 5 was seeded with the final seed mix, and Soldier Creek hopes that the effort is successful and that straw bales can be removed from this area soon. Some seed was also hand broadcast in a small area north of the fan site exploration.

18. Support Facilities and Utility Installations

We checked the SPCC plan and implementation of the CFR Title 40 regulations at the fuel storage site. According to Mr. Pappas, this site became operational in August or September, and Soldier Creek has six months after a site becomes operational to prepare the SPCC plan. It has been signed and certified by Tom Paluso, a professional engineer, but it may still need

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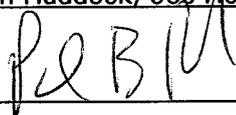
to be signed by Art Bruno and Rick Olsen. Implementation of the plan must be done as soon as possible but not later than one year after a facility becomes operational.

The method of cleaning coal fines from the containment structure around the fuel storage tanks has been to hose it down. If these fines are contaminated with oil, this method would be contrary to the draft SPCC plan.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Bernie Freeman (OSM)

Given to: Daron Haddock, Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: 

Paul B. Baker #41 Date: January 28, 1992