

0008



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

*gh 027*

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Governor

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Partial:  Complete:  Exploration:   
Inspection Date & Time: 9/15/93 9:15 am - 5:00 pm 9/20/93  
Date of Last Inspection: August 31, 1993

Mine Name: Soldier Canyon County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/018  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Soldier Creek Coal Company

Business Address: P.O. Box I, Price, UT 84501  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface  Prep. Plant  Other   
State Official(s): Sharon Falvey  
Company Official(s): Tom Paluso, Dave Spillman  
Federal Official(s): Gary Fritz  
Weather Conditions: Clear to partly cloudy/ Rain on 9/16  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 4910 Disturbed- 24 Regraded-  Seeded-  Bonded- 95.2  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-  Disturbed-  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

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - 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.
  - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) _____ (date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT / 007 / 018 DATE OF INSPECTION: September 15, 1993

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

## 1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

The application for permit transfer was approved at the Division on September 14, 1993. The proposed change includes replacement of the parent company Elk River with Coastal States. The new company representatives were visiting the site at the time of this inspection.

## 2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

The topsoil signs were not in place at the initiation of this inspection at the Topsoil Storage Site. The area is fenced minimizing potential disturbances to the piles. Prior to completion of the inspection, a topsoil sign was placed at the gate to the topsoil storage area. The Operator was informed the signs must be placed on each of the piles to meet the specific wording of the regulatory requirements and Operator indicated that the sign placement requirements would be met.

## 4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:

### a. DIVERSIONS

The drop drain east of the main mine road was in need of clean out maintenance due to accumulation of coal fines. The Operator has recently attempted to regrade the ditch below the 24" culvert under the access road to the portal area. Riprap is being retained outside of the ditch to observe if the ditch is able to function properly at the new grade. The Operator should assess the existing design to determine if riprap is necessary, and adjust the plan or replace the riprap.

### b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The Operator has completed the pond reports for the 3rd quarter on August 9, 1993. Existing capacity for the mine sediment pond is at 2.42 Acre-feet. A copy of this report was presented and filed which clarifies the information missing in the annual report. The plan indicates 1.93 acre feet is required for runoff leaving 0.49 acre-feet for sediment accumulation. The Operators plan indicates the sediment will be removed at the 60 % clean-out level. The Operators plan currently states clean-out will occur when sediment has reached the 0.88 acre foot level. The existing level is at 0.94 acre feet. The Operator and I have discussed the proposed clean-out measures numerous times (since my April inspection). Currently the Operator is unable to dispose of the waste because the proposed disposal area in the plan was to be placed at the waste rock site which is not being permitted at this time. I believe the Operator should have a more than adequate amount of time to achieve approval for disposal and provide clean up of the pond waste by December 18, 1993. It is unlikely that the pond sediment would reach maximum stage by that time unless there is an unusual sequence of precipitation events.

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### d. WATER MONITORING

Several monitoring sites were visited during this inspection. In a discussion with Dave Spillman it was indicated the monitoring plan is set up for the proposed longwall mining. At this point in time, the proposed longwall mining may not occur. If the mining plan changes, the importance of some monitoring points is reduced. The Operator should keep this in mind and update the monitoring plan accordingly if another mining plan is pursued.

## 16. ROADS:

### a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING

#### PRIMARY ROADS

R645-301-512.250 requires Certification of Design Construction or Re-Construction as meeting the requirements of R645-301-534.200 and R645-301-742.420.

R645-301-5.34.200 requires information on limits for grade, width, surface materials and other necessary design criteria. The current plan includes this information for a typical road cross section on Figure 5.34. It is not clear if this information is based on limits for grade, or to which primary road the cross section applies to. Cross sections should be representative of what is present on site. No certification was noted for the cross sections. NOV 93-38-1-3 #1 was issued based on the lack of certification.

#### ANCILLARY ROADS

The Sewage Lagoon road is considered ancillary according to current plan and pg. 5-43. This is based on the infrequent use of the road. According to the plan on page 5.42.60 through 5.42.63, the facilities expansion area will be re-constructed but, all other roads will be reclaimed. This implies the Sewage Lagoon road will be reclaimed and therefore appears to fit the description of Ancillary Roads. No certification of design is required for Ancillary Roads.

### b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS

R645-301-742.420 requires information for road drainage designs. Initial Design construction for drainage associated with roads is included in the Approved MRP and certification dated September 11, 1991 in Appendix A, by Richard White. The subsequent submittal May 27, 1993, is also certified by Richard White dated May 6, 1993. It should be noted that the Number One Fan Road Figure 5.27-1 was not certified and is applicable to NOV 93-38-1-3 #1. Additional information on drainage in the cross sections may provide a clear document for those areas which are not typical.

No design associated with the ditch/berm system for the number one fan road was found. This ditch/berm was identified as a deficiency in the January 8, meeting and summarized in a January 14, memo. However, designs for the berm could not be located in the submittal or the approved plan. Therefore, NOV 93-38-13 #2 was issued.

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## 18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

Gary Fritz the OSM inspector was concerned that the REI middle de-gas station was an un-permitted mining related activity. REI uses power from the SC3's main power source. The OSM inspector understood, from a conversation with Dave Spillman, that the power at these stations included a down hole line which was used by the coal mining operation. General information on the location and existence of this power source at the REI middle de-gas station was not identified in the current plan as required by R645-301-521-1.22 and other state regulations. In follow up conversations between Dave Spillman and Gary Fritz, and between Tom Paluso and myself, SC3 indicated there is no down hole power source at that location. However, information in the Mining and Reclamation Plan is not clear and specific to the facilities passing through the permit area at the REI middle de-gas station. Therefore, NOV 93-38-1-3 #3 was issued.

Mailed to: Marcia Petta (OSM), Tom Paluso (SCCC)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM), Daron Haddock (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: Sharon R Falvey #38 Date: 9/29/93