

0012



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Ted Stewart  
Executive Director  
James W. Carter  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
801-538-5319 (TDD)

## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: \_\_\_ Complete: X Exploration: X  
Inspection Date & Time: 3/29/94 10:15 am - 3:15 pm  
Date of Last Inspection: February 28, 1994

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 1029, Wellington, UT 84542  
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): None  
Weather Conditions: Clear  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 4910 Disturbed- 24 Regraded- \_\_\_ Seeded- \_\_\_ Bonded- 95.2  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted- \_\_\_ Disturbed- \_\_\_ Regraded- \_\_\_ Seeded- \_\_\_ Bonded- \_\_\_  
Status: \_\_\_ Exploration/ X 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 2 of 4

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT / 007 / 018

DATE OF INSPECTION: March 29, 1994

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

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

- a. Coastal States Energy received an extension to February 15, 1994 to provide corporate information for the Soldier Creek Mine per Division Order 93 A. The SC3 submittal, including deficiencies identified in the December 10, 1993 memo, was received on February 22, 1994. The submittal is in the review process.
- b. The operator received approval for removal of an underground storage tank on February 3, 1994. Copies of the submittal to be received on March 3, 1994 were submitted to the Division by April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- c. The operator received approval for additional coal handling facilities and is required to obtain the air quality permit prior to operation of the facilities. Seven copies of the submittal are to be received by April 8, 1994.

2. **SIGNS AND MARKERS**

The operator has received new signs providing a change in address. The signs were received 2 days prior to the inspection according to Dave Spillman.

The signs now read:

Soldier Creek Coal Company  
P.O. Box 1029 - Wellington  
Phone (801) 637-6360  
MSHA I.D. 42-00077  
State Permit ACT/007/018

4. **HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:**

b. **SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS**

Mine Pond and Sewage Lagoon inspections were completed on February 14, 1994 for the 1st quarter. The operator noted that sediment was removed from the pond in December with no change in containment volume. A note indicating the sediment marker would be installed when possible was included.

Visual inspection of the pond showed that approximately 2/3 of the sediment volume was removed. Sediment was removed from the west end of the pond to the spillway inlets on the east, and past the 18 inch CMP inlet to the North. The west embankment, adjacent to the REI storage area (ASCA #1), was filled with gravel and sand to the original embankment height. This material moved easily under foot, was showing displacement cracks, and is not appropriate for a sedimentation pond embankment. Placement of this material is located in the upper portion of the embankment and did not appear to affect the function of the pond unless the design event is exceeded. However, the material used does not allow the compaction necessary to maintain a stable embankment to the design height.

The operator should replace the gravel and sand materials with a material which is appropriate for compacting and provides a stable pond embankment.

## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 3 of 4

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT / 007 / 018

DATE OF INSPECTION: March 29, 1994

### c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

The cut bank north of the portal access road did not show additional signs of soil creep since the last visit probably due to dry soil conditions. Lack of adequate vegetation establishment on the lower third of the slope and, degradation of the filter fabric are some factors which increase erosion at this point. It was indicated that the area would be re-seeded and that additional treatment would be provided during fall reclamation activities. The operator should monitor this area and if considerable amounts of soil continues to creep down the slope immediate action may be required. Replacing the erosion control blanket, applying weed free straw mulch with a tackifier, or other similar method may be adequate to control the erosion occurring presently at this site. Seeding could occur later, in conjunction with seeding other areas this year.

The accumulation of coal fines, noted on the downstream side of the county road concrete barrier during the previous inspection, was not visible during this inspection.

The waste rock site exploration road was inspected. Maintenance of the siltation structures is necessary to maintain proper functioning. The application for exploration was not located in the files. However, correspondence memos were reviewed. The memos indicate: the ancillary road will be retained until the permanent road is completed; strawbales or silt fences will be used to control erosion and reduce overland flow; and SC3 will maintain the road and water drainage.

Although referenced memos indicates straw bales can be used, the BTCA, where silt fences currently exist, are believed to be silt fences based on the visual analysis of erosion occurring from the road.

### d. WATER MONITORING

Samples were obtained on February 22, 1994 for sites G-5, UG-11E, MW-2M. Other sites were determined by the operator to be inaccessible. The operator is now mining 10th west main and expects to mine through well 6-1 sometime this year. An increased monthly sample during this time period for elevation should be conducted to obtain information on drawdown in this area while mining in the well vicinity.

The operator is pursuing water quality baseline monitoring on the Alkali lease area. The Division previously requested the complete survey be sampled again based on the large variation in flow between previous years data. In September and October 1992 the survey was completed for sites, within and a 1/4 mile beyond the lease area boundary. The proposed baseline monitoring requested omission of the 1st quarter data because of access and influences from snowmelt runoff. I indicated the omission of the 1st quarter sampling for this years baseline would be acceptable. Further analysis of the proposal is currently being conducted. A review memo will be submitted to the operator within the month.

## 5. EXPLOSIVES

While constructing the reclaim conveyor blasting was required to remove sandstone bedrock. The certified blaster was Ray T. Bridge, who's certification number 028

## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

Page 4 of 4

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT / 007 / 018

DATE OF INSPECTION: March 29, 1994

expires on February 14, 1995. The certificate was presented during the inspection. Blasting records for March 22 through March 24, 1994 indicate blasts were less than 5 lbs a shot.

### 7. COAL MINEWASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The operators MRP page 5-46 indicates that until the refuse disposal site is constructed, the temporary stockpiling of waste or excess spoil will be placed as shown in Exhibit 5.21-1a. A composite sample will be analyzed according to table 6 of DOGM guidelines for materials stockpiled longer than 3 months.

The material is a mixture of coal, sandstone fragments, and sand from the blasting procedure. Mr. Dave Spillman estimated 130 yards of material, classified as coal mine waste, is stockpiled.

The operator gathered approximately 15 lbs of material from the pit consisting solely of bedrock material. The material to be gathered should be obtained from the stockpile and include a mixture of all materials including the coal.

It should be noted that the operator's refuse pile is not approved for construction at this time. It was indicated by the representatives that the site may never be constructed. The operator should adjust the existing permit to accurately reflect current conditions for the site. The operator should indicate the proposed use for the stockpiled material with accounting in backfilling and grading operations, or provide for an approved permanent storage location.

### 11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION

During the inspection implementation regarding the #3 fansite reclamation were discussed. Mr. Spillman indicated that contract bidding for the reclamation was progressing. The operator has committed to complete reclamation for the #3 fansite in the fall of 1994.

### 21. BONDING & INSURANCE

The operator had an updated accord form at the mine office. The insurance issue date was identified as 3/9/94 effective 3/16/94 through 3/16/95. No changes in coverage were noted other than the addition of Blasting.

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

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

Inspector's Signature: Sharon K Falvey #38 Date: April 7, 1994