



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

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801-538-5340  
801-359-3940 (Fax)  
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Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

Partial:    Complete: XXX Exploration:     
Inspection Date & Time: 4/27/99 / 8:15a.m.-12:00p.m.  
Date of Last Inspection: 3/19/99

Mine Name: Soldier Canyon Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/018  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Canyon Fuel Company  
Business Address: P.O. Box 1029, Wellington, Utah 84542  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface    Prep. Plant    Other     
Company Official(s): Dave Spillman  
State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Cloudy, Warm, Some Showers  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 5186.17 Disturbed- 24 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 95.2  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-    Disturbed-    Regraded-    Seeded-    Bonded-     
Status: Exploration/ XXX 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

First quarter 1999 impoundment inspections for the mine site sediment pond and the sewage lagoons were conducted by Mr. Steve Nye on March 15, 1999. There were no hazards or signs of instability noted for either impoundment, either today or during Mr. Nye's inspection. Water elevations were well below the manual decant levels. A pair of water fowl were observed on the surfaces of the sewage lagoons.

Annual impoundment certifications were performed by Mr. Dave Spillman, P.E., on September 30, 1998 for both of the aforementioned ponds. Same were included in the 1998 annual report for the Mine.

4d. WATER MONITORING

None of the Mine's UPDES discharge points had outfalls during the first three months of 1999; all reports were current and submitted in a timely fashion. Mr. Spillman is the permittee's authorized representative signing the forms.

The fourth quarter 1998 water monitoring report for the site was submitted to the SLO-DOGMA on January 31, 1999. Accurate flow measurements at most of the sample sites were not possible due to snow and ice accumulations at the monitoring points. There were no spikes or other abnormal readings noted with any of the other submitted data. The first quarter 1999 report is pending.

4e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The current UPDES permit for the site expires March 31, 2001.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

The storing and retrieving of materials in several areas of the Mine site has resulted in the running over of wooden pallets. The permittee should consider cleaning up the combustible wooden fragments in the area up behind the #1 mine fan and in the area adjacent to the three portals on the east side of the Canyon road.

13. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL

The last coal production at the Soldier Canyon Mine occurred during October 1998.

The annual subsidence report for the Mine was received as part of the 1998 Annual Report. Same was received in the Price Field Office on April 5, 1999. The analysis of this report is as follows:

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The Soldier Canyon operation has always used continuous miner development and pillar extraction methods to produce coal. Longwall mining was never implemented at this Mine, hence, the widespread subsidence associated with longwall extraction is not seen.

The field survey to collect the submitted data was conducted on November 4, 1998. Canyon Fuel monitors seven points, using standard trigonometric surveying techniques. The maximum elevation deflection noted (-1.80') occurred at survey point 931 (description 93-1SS) which was installed in 1993. This point exists between two 9 entry sections which extracted seven coal pillars across the width of the panel during retreat.

The other six monitoring points showed deflections ranging from +0.28 to -0.65 feet, indicating minimum subsidence/heave in the monitoring area. The report, which has been P.E. certified by Mr. Dave Spillman, Manager of Technical Services, indicates the following:

- 1) visual checks for subsidence which were made during the field survey indicated that no subsidence effects were visible.
- 2) no subsidence was detected which would require mitigative measures.

Since mining ceased in October '98, and the data for the above survey was collected in November, additional deflection may yet occur at the monitoring points. This will be determined by the 1999 subsidence survey.

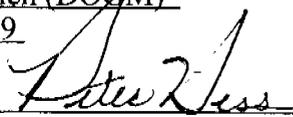
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

The #1 Mine fan continues to ventilate the underground works.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Dave Spillman (Canyon Fuel) Henry Austin (OSM)  
Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office  
Date: April 29, 1999

Inspector's Signature:  #46  
Peter Hess