

WATER QUALITY MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

May 9, 2006

TO: Internal File

THRU: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Steve Fluke, Reclamation Hydrogeologist

RE: 2005 Fourth Quarter Water Monitoring, Canyon Fuel Company, Soldier Canyon Mine, C/007/0018-WQ05-4, Task ID #2520

The Soldier Canyon Mine has been in temporary cessation since 1998. Because the mine has not been active for over one year, water monitoring has been discontinued at all but five locations until the mine becomes active again. Water monitoring data is evaluated from the data that is submitted quarterly by the mine to the Division electronic data input (EDI) database. The water monitoring program, field and laboratory measurement protocols, and groundwater and surface water operational water quality parameters are outlined in the mine's MRP in Tables 7.31-1, 7.31-2, 7.31-3, and 7.31-4. UPDES reporting requirements are presented in Table 5.26-2 in Chapter 5 of the MRP.

1. Was data submitted for all required monitoring sites? YES [X] NO []

Surface *Sampling during temporary cessation is required quarterly for only two stream monitoring sites (G-5 and G-6). For stream sites G-6 and G-7, flow measurements are to be taken weekly between April 1 and August 31 during the first wet year and the first dry year. Additionally, semi-annual water quality field measurements, operational laboratory measurements and ³H measurements are to be taken during a wet and dry year for these sites. Dry and wet years are based on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) snow pack measurements as of March 1 for the Price River-San Rafael River Basins that are <70 and >110 percent of normal, respectively.*

Both required surface monitoring sites were sampled and data submitted for the 2005 fourth quarter monitoring.

Groundwater and Wells *Sampling during temporary cessation is not required for any spring monitoring or groundwater well monitoring sites. For spring sites 5 (CC-53), 10, 23 (CC-36), and 24 (CC-40), flow measurements are to be taken weekly between April 1 and August 31 during the first wet year and the first dry year. Additionally, semi-annual water quality field measurements, operational laboratory measurements and ³H measurements are to be taken during a wet and dry year for these sites. Dry and wet years are based on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) snow pack measurements as of March 1 for the Price River-San Rafael River Basins that are <70 and >110 percent of normal, respectively.*

No groundwater or well monitoring is required for the 2005 fourth quarter monitoring.

UPDES *Sampling during temporary cessation is required monthly for three active UPDES sites (UT0023680-001, -002, and -003). Outflows 001 and 003 are for mine water discharge at site MW-1 and MW-2, respectively, and outflow 002 is for the sedimentation pond discharge.*

Data was submitted for all three UPDES sites. No discharge was reported for all three months of the 2005 fourth quarter monitoring.

2. Were all required parameters reported for each site? YES [X] NO []

Surface All required parameters were reported for stream monitoring site G-5 and G-6.

Groundwater and Wells NA

UPDES No flow was reported for all three UPDES outflows for all three months.

3. Were any irregularities found in the data? YES [] NO [X]

Surface Oil and grease concentrations for G-5 and G-6 were reported at 53 mg/L and 327 mg/L, respectively.

Groundwater and Wells NA

UPDES No flow was reported for all three UPDES outflows for all three months.

4. On what date does the MRP require a five-year resampling of baseline water data?

The MRP does not require a five-year resampling of baseline water data.

5. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?

Surface Determine why such high oil and grease concentrations were reported for the G-5 and G-6 samples. Conduct a site visit to determine the source if still present. Vicky Miller of Canyon Fuel has been contacted to follow up.

Groundwater and Wells NA

UPDES No further action is recommended.

6. Does the Mine Operator need to submit more information to fulfill this quarter's monitoring requirements? YES [] NO [X]

7. Follow-up from last quarter, if necessary. Did the Mine Operator submit or provide an explanation for missing and/or irregular data?

NA