

C/007/018 Incoming



**U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Mine Site Evaluation  
State Program**



<p><b>1. Permittee/Person</b> CANYON FUEL COMPANY LLC</p> <p><b>2. Address</b> 225 NORTH 5TH STREET, 9TH FLOOR</p> <p><b>3. City</b> GRAND JUNCTION      <b>4. State</b> CO</p> <p><b>5. Zip Code</b> 81501      <b>6. Phone Number</b> (970) 263-5130</p> <p><b>7. Operator Name, if Different than Permittee</b></p> <p><b>8. Mine Name</b> SOLDIER CANYON</p>	<p><b>9. Permit Number</b> C0070018</p> <p><b>10. Permit Type</b> PP</p> <p><b>11. Field Visit Date</b> 11/14/2017      <b>12. Purpose</b> OP      <b>13. SRA Present</b> Y <small>mm - dd - yyyy</small></p> <p><b>14. Permit Status</b> IN      <b>15. Site Status</b> TC      <b>16. Facility Type</b> B</p> <p><b>17. OSM Office #</b> 140      <b>18. CCID #</b>      <b>19. Land Code</b> F</p> <p><b>20. M.S.H.A. ID #</b> 42-01566      <b>21. State Abbrev.</b> UT      <b>22. County/Burrough</b> CARBON</p> <p><b>23. AVS Permittee Entity ID Number</b> 142816      <b>24. State Office</b></p>
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<p><b>25. Hours</b></p> <table style="width:100%;"> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2.0</td><td>a. Permit Review</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2.0</td><td>b. Site Visit Time</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">12.0</td><td>c. Travel Time</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2.0</td><td>d. Report Writing</td></tr> </table>	2.0	a. Permit Review	2.0	b. Site Visit Time	12.0	c. Travel Time	2.0	d. Report Writing	<p><b>26. Signature Block</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Christine Belka</i> Signature:</p> <p align="center">Christine Belka, ID#182 Printed Name:</p> <p>Date: 11/16/2017</p>	<p><b>27. Reviewing Official:</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Noranda Strand</i> Signature:</p> <p>Review Date: 11-17-2017 <small>mm - dd - yyyy</small></p> <p>Is Supplemental MSE Page Used Y/N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y</p>
2.0	a. Permit Review									
2.0	b. Site Visit Time									
12.0	c. Travel Time									
2.0	d. Report Writing									

**Permit Type - Item 10** IP = Interim Program PP = Permanent Program NP = No Permit

**Purpose Type Codes - Item 12**

Oxx...Oversight	RFx...Reclamation Fees	CCR...Citizen Complaint Referral (non-site visit)
Axx...Assistance	Fxx...Federal Actions	CC...Citizen Complaint (initial site visit)
		CCF...Assistance

**Joint Inspection - Item 13** A joint inspection is when a state inspector accompanies an OSM inspector at any time during the review of the mine site

**Permit Status - Item 14**

<p><b>A</b> Active: Coal mining activities occurring or permitted but not yet disturbed.</p> <p><b>IN</b> Inactive (Permanent Program Permit): Phase II completed or Temporary Cessation of Operations. (Interim Program Permit): Coal mining completed and reclamation activities initiated.</p> <p><b>BR</b> Bond Release: Reclamation completed and State Regulatory Authority(RA) has released all of the bond (Phase III Release).</p>	<p><b>AB</b> Abandoned: All surface and underground coal mining activities have ceased and operator has left the site without completing reclamation as defined in 30 CFR 840:11(g).</p> <p><b>AB1</b> Bond Forfeiture: Bond forfeiture officially in process or completed and reclamation in progress or not yet commenced.</p> <p><b>AB2</b> Partially Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site where all bonds have been used to reclaim site, but site not reclaimed to Program standards.</p> <p><b>AB3</b> Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site that has been reclaimed to Program standards.</p> <p><b>NA</b> Not Applicable: When site is unpermitted.</p>
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**Site Status - Item 15**

<p><b>ND</b> No Disturbance: No coal mining and reclamation operations have been started.</p> <p><b>EX</b> Coal Exploration: Coal exploration operations have started and where coal mining operations have not begun.</p> <p><b>AP</b> Active Coal Producing: Coal surface mining activities are occurring.</p> <p><b>AN</b> Active Non-Producing: Active non-producing facility such as tippie or preparation plant.</p> <p><b>NM</b> No Mining: The Permit Status is active, site is not in Temporary Cessation, no surface coal mining activity, and site not regraded.</p>	<p><b>MC</b> Mining Complete: No mining activity on site, site regraded and awaiting bond release.</p> <p><b>TC</b> Temporary Cessation: The RA has granted cessation of mining pursuant to 30 CFR 816/817:13(b).</p> <p><b>P1</b> Phase I Release: At least Phase I bond release granted for entire permitted area. For interim permits, partial bond release.</p> <p><b>P2</b> Phase II Release: At least Phase II bond release for the entire permitted area.</p> <p><b>P3</b> Phase III Release: Reclamation completed and the RA has released all bond.</p>	<p><b>NS</b> Non-Site Visit: Status of site not determined. Forfeiture Pending: The RA is pursuing actions to revoke the permit, collect the performance bond(s), and/or reclamation of forfeited site is in progress.</p> <p><b>FR</b> Forfeited and Reclaimed: Forfeiture reclamation completed.</p> <p><b>FO</b> Abandoned Site: Abandoned site that is permitted but there is no bond.</p> <p><b>WC</b> Wildcat: Coal mining and reclamation operations have or are taking place and the activity is not covered by the required permits from the RA.</p>
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**Facility Type Codes - Item 16**

<p><b>A</b>...Surface</p> <p><b>B</b>...Underground</p> <p><b>C</b>...Preparation Plant</p>	<p><b>D</b>...Ancillary (Haulroad, Conveyor, and/or Rails</p> <p><b>E</b>...Refuse and/or Impoundment</p> <p><b>F</b>...Loading Facility and/or Tippie</p> <p><b>G</b>...Stockpiles</p>	<p><b>H</b>...Exploration Permits</p> <p><b>I</b>...Notice of Intent to Explore</p> <p><b>J</b>...Exempt 16 and 2/3</p>	<p><b>K</b>...Government Financed Construction Exemption</p> <p><b>L</b>...Remining site permitted under 30 CFR 785.25</p>
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**Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA)  
Your Comments are Important**

The Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were established to receive comments from small businesses about Federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman will annually evaluate the enforcement activities and rate each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you are a small business (a business with 500 or fewer employees including those of affiliates) and wish to comment on the enforcement or compliance activities of OSM, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

### Mine Site Inspection

**Mine Name:** Soldier Canyon Mine

**Permittee:** Canyon Fuel Company, LLC

**Permit ID #:** C/007/0018

**Inspection Date:** November 14, 2017 1:00 – 2:30

**Weather Conditions:** Scattered clouds, warm (50's), dry ground

**Participants:**

Christine Belka, Office of Surface Mining (OSM) #182

Karl Houskeeper, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGGM)

Bill King, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC (CFC)

### Field Evaluation

Soldier Canyon is an inactive underground mine in temporary cessation status. The mine ceased coal production in 1999. All portals entries are currently sealed and the facilities have fallen into disrepair. Vandals have stolen copper from the facilities area, defunct power lines have fallen, roads are heaving, etc. The site would need dramatic renovation to bring back online in the event CFC intended to reinstate mining operations here. The electrical substation is online, as power for the Dugout Canyon mine is routed through here. Disturbed areas are fenced and gates are locked to restrict access.

Topsoil: Topsoil for the Soldier Canyon and Dugout Canyon mines is stored near the Soldier Canyon facilities area. The area is fenced and a mine identification sign is in place at the entrance. All topsoil stockpiles were stable and well-protected with berms and vegetative cover. One stockpile exhibited lesser vegetative cover than others. Mr. King indicated it had been reseeded in the past. No evidence erosion or loss of topsoil resource was noted.

Hydrology / sediment control: Straw bales at the exhaust fan have deteriorated and should be replaced. The sediment pond was dry and appeared in good repair. All diversions remain intact, and disturbed / undisturbed drainage is appropriately controlled. No evidence of erosion was noted on the site.

Signs and markers: Mine identification signs are in place at all points of entrance from public roads and contain all information as required under R645-301-521.200 through -.244. Painted t-posts marked the disturbed perimeter as required under R645-301-521.251.

Roads: Roads traveled were deteriorating.

Maintenance items noted:

- Straw bales at the exhaust fan have deteriorated and should be replaced.

No enforcement actions were taken as a result of this inspection.

I&E Inspection Photos

Permit: C0070018 Inspection Date: 11/14/2017

Permittee: CANYON FUEL COMPANY LLC



Notes:

Topsoil stockpiles were stable, protective berms were intact.

Photo ID: 35732

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 11/14/2017

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 39.65164056

Longitude: -  
110.61831306

Subject: Topsoil stockpiles

Mine Name: SOLDIER CANYON



Notes:

One stockpile exhibited poor vegetation. CFC representative indicated this pile has been reseeded several times in the past. No loss of topsoil resource was noted.

Photo ID: 35733

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 11/14/2017

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 39.65141667

Longitude: -  
110.63375389

Subject: Topsoil stockpile

Mine Name: SOLDIER CANYON

I&E Inspection Photos

Permit: C0070018      Inspection Date: 11/14/2017

Permittee: CANYON FUEL COMPANY LLC



Notes:

Portals have been backfilled.  
Vegetation is well-established.

Photo ID: 35734

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 11/14/2017

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 39.70000861

Longitude: -  
110.60109528

Subject: Sealed portals

Mine Name: SOLDIER CANYON



Notes:

Straw bales by the exhaust fan  
have disintegrated over time  
and should be replaced.

Photo ID: 35735

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 11/14/2017

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 39.70024250

Longitude: -  
110.60108722

Subject: Sediment control

Mine Name: SOLDIER CANYON

**I&E Inspection Photos**

Permit: C0070018      Inspection Date: 11/14/2017

Permittee: CANYON FUEL COMPANY LLC



**Notes:**

Culvert clean, water running, no problems noted.

Photo ID: 35736

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 11/14/2017

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 39.68496028

Longitude: -  
110.60112278

Subject: Clear water diversion

Mine Name: SOLDIER CANYON



**Notes:**

Pond is dry. No problems noted.

Photo ID: 35737

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 11/14/2017

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 39.68483444

Longitude: -  
110.60118861

Subject: Pond

Mine Name: SOLDIER CANYON