

August 5, 1981

Memo to Coal File:

RE: Blazon #1 Mine
Blazon Company
ACT/007/021
Carbon County, Utah

Mr. Joe Harvey, President of Blazon Company and his son, Kirk Harvey, Mine Superintendant, were contacted by Reclamation Officers of Division of Oil, Gas & Mining, Sandy Pruitt and Jean Dautre, to inspect a mine waste fill area, approved by Division of Oil, Gas & Mining under compliance to eleven stipulations.

These requirements were each discussed with Mr. Harvey and Son, particularly, Stipulation #10, which had been overlooked or not addressed properly by them.

It states: The applicant shall submit plans for storage or redistribution of top soil within a month (of May 22, 1981, the date of receiving approval) to ensure that topsoil be protected in accordance with UMC 817.23, which deals with topsoil storage and protection.

No plans were submitted and both of the stockpiles do require more adequate berms and use of silt retention by material, such as straw bales, to prevent run-off that could contaminate stream and cause erosion of topsoil.

N.O.V. #81-2-9-1 was written for:

1. Failure to comply with terms and conditions of the permit.
2. Failure to post top soil markers.
3. Failure to protect stockpiled topsoil from wind and water erosion, unnecessary compaction and contaminants.

Remedial action required for abatement:

Submit plans for storage or redistribution of top soil as required in Stipulation 5-81-10 and implement a plan to comply with 817.23 by September 6, 1981.

Inspection of the mine waste fill area showed compliance to date with the plan and though rock fill at the base was not done as yet, the culvert drain was in place and buried. Mine waste was filling the area available so rapidly as to soon be inadequate.

In the Blazon Mine there is 1½ to 3 feet of broken shale over the coal seam, which comes down as coal waste. There is also a foot or more of sticky clay underlying the coal, which has to be mucked out to provide a floor to work on. For every ten loads of coal removed, there are one or two loads of mine waste that has to be disposed of as refuse in a load fill area.

Clear Creek Strip Pit

There is an abandoned mine pit about three miles down the canyon from the Blazon Mine. Mr. Harvey would like to use this surface mine site for a mine refuse dump, rather than have to disturb new areas for waste fill.

This property is owned in fee by Valley Camp, who may be in favor of sharing it as a fill reclamation project into which several mines could contribute waste fill to hasten the reclamation of this scar on the landscape and return the land to grazing and natural habitat.

This area was inspected by the Reclamation Officers, Jean Doutre and Sandy Pruitt on August 4, 1981, with Mr. Joe and Kirk Harvey, to determine the feasibility of land filling the area in a manner complimentary to the reclamation plans of the abandoned mine lands division.

This was discussed with Mary Ann Wright, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, and she provided a copy of the project entitled:

"1978 - Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project - UTAH - The Clear Creek Mine Strip Pit", which was prepared March 15, 1978, by Ronald Daniels of Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining.

A copy was mailed to Mr. Harvey and Son, Kirk Harvey, for their information.

This project could be enhanced by the cooperative effort of the Division and interested mine companies.


JEAN DOUTRE
RECLAMATION OFFICER

JLD/vp

cc: Tom Ehmitt, OSM
Joe Harvey
Inspection Staff

Statistics: See Valley Camp Memo, date, August 5, 1981

Grant A & E