

0015

Document Information Form

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To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: April 13, 1983

Explanation:

Inspection Memo

cc:

File in: C/007, 022, Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

April 13, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: C. V. Spur
Beaver Creek Coal Company
ACT/007/022
Folder No. 7
Carbon County, Utah

A partial inspection of the C. V. Spur was conducted on March 16, 1983 by Scott Raymond of Beaver Creek Coal Company and Sandy Pruitt, DOGM. The weather was fair and mild, runoff was occurring. All but one of the drainage culverts inspected had been maintained and were functional. The cross culvert at the branch in the road from the preparation plant to the filter pond had been replaced when drainage off the plant yard flooded the road. The runoff ditch from the plant yard had been reestablished also. Runoff control ditches over the entire yard (particularly ditches to the filter pond and ditches along the new coal stockpiles) need to be reestablished to safely pass peak runoff from the 10 year, 24 hour precipitation event [as required by DOGM in accordance with UMC 817.43 (a)]. The cross culvert under the road to the auxiliary silo has been obstructed with frozen refuse all winter. At the time of this inspection water ponded at the mouth of the culvert but would be contained on-site. It appeared that the obstruction could easily be removed to allow for drainage of the refuse area. The inlet to sediment pond #5 has not been rip-rapped as specified in the plans and erosion is evident. Beaver Creek Coal Company intends to address these problems during the week of May 1, 1983. At that time, construction equipment will be available after they extend the filter pond 15 feet (as required in a January 10, 1983 approval letter). Beaver Creek Coal Company has also submitted plans for the construction of a plant overflow pond (located south of sediment pond #1). They'd prefer to construct the pond during the week of May 1st also. DOGM approval of this modification has not yet been granted since no plans for topsoil removal or substitution have been provided as requested in early March.

At the time of this inspection (4:00 P.M.) the water level in all sediment ponds (#1, 2 and 3) was high. The level in the filter pond was above the gravel filters and up to the level of the overflow pipe. No discharge was occurring but ponded water inside the overflow culvert indicated that a discharge had occurred sometime recently. Beaver Creek Coal Company was unaware of the discharge so no sample was taken. The thickener overflow pond was kept dry for emergency purposes. Plant water was being discharged directly into sediment pond #1 at a rate approximated at 50 gpm. Water from the floor drain sump was also being pumped into sediment pond #1 at a rate of approximately 40 gpm. Both of these plant water discharges are in violation of the NPDES permit #UT-0023949 (outflow point 002). Steve McNeal, State Health Department, has been informed and will water is recirculated back to the plant from f 40 gpm. Therefore if the plant discharge were discharge was likely to occur. We discussed t Plant Superintendent, he explained that Beaver process of testing 14 methods to optimize the |

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coal run and/or water volume, etc.). They were currently on test #2. He figured that the overflow from the filter pond may have occurred the week before when the thickner pond was pumped dry using too large of a pump. He showed us a smaller pump in the shop that he intended to start using. He explained that the water line from the Price River doesn't work so they needed to pump pond #1 down for plant water makeup earlier that day. That afternoon all of the ponds were already full giving an indication of the amount of water being discharged from the plant (pond #1 is also nearly 1/2 full of sediment though).

Ponding of water at the eastern base of the refuse pile has reoccurred. Beaver Creek Coal Company alleges to have fixed the problem by repairing a canal water transfer system last fall. It appears instead that the inoperation of the Price River water line is due to a break in the line (a very shallow 10 inch corrugated metal pipe) located at the base of the refuse pile. This pipe should be repaired or the makeup water system closed off to prevent excessive water accumulation on-site.

The emergency Trail Mountain coal stockpile located inside a triangular road junction near the entrance to C. V. Spur would be removed following this inspection. Beaver Creek Coal Company representatives were informed that the area should be reclaimed in accordance with UMC 817.100 if not permitted for future use.

Several modifications to the 1979 interim plans have been granted recently. Surface operations and coal stockpile areas are encroaching on unpermitted areas. NAOC #83-2-3-1 was issued requesting that Beaver Creek Coal Company clearly mark the perimeter of all areas to be effected by surface operations or facilities to minimize the potential for unauthorized activities on undisturbed areas and topsoil which is interspersed within the disturbed areas (eg. the area east of the proposed emergency coal stockpile, soil unit B1B located east of the refuse area and areas located along the outside perimeter of the operation). Beaver Creek Coal Company agreed to have the perimeter posted no later than May 3, 1983.


SANDY PRUITT
FIELD SPECIALIST

SP/lm

cc: Tom Ehmett, OSM
Scott Raymond, BCCC
Steve McNeal, State Health
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Joe Lyons, DOGM
John Whitehead, DOGM

Statistics:

See Genwal memo dated March 30, 1983.