0016

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

INSPECTION REPORT

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Partial: XXX Complete:__ Exploration:__
Inspection Date & Time: 10/19/98 / 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
Date of Last Inspection: 9/22/98

Mine Name: Willow Creek Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/038
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
Business Address: 847 Northwest Highway 191, Helper, Utah 84526
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface__ Prep. Plant__ Other__
Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas
State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Cool, Sunny, 60's
Existing Acreage: Permitted-14,670 Disturbed-132.9 Regraded-_ Seeded-_ Bonded-132.9
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
1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
   a. 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.
   b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. 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	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2.	SIGNS AND MARKERS	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]
3.	TOPSOIL	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
4.	HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a.	DIVERSIONS	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]
b.	SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
c.	OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]
d.	WATER MONITORING	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
e.	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
5.	EXPLOSIVES	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
6.	DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]
7.	COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]
8.	NONCOAL WASTE	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
9.	PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[XX]
10.	SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]
11.	CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]
12.	BACKFILLING AND GRADING	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]
13.	REVEGETATION	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]
14.	SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
15.	CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
16.	ROADS:				
a.	CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
b.	DRAINAGE CONTROLS	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
17.	OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]
18.	SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	[XX]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
19.	AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____(date)	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
20.	AIR QUALITY PERMIT	[XX]	[ ]	[XX]	[ ]
21.	BONDING & INSURANCE	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

The disturbed area perimeter markers located above and East of the clean coal pile expansion area have been repainted; the markers are now plainly visible.

Additional stream buffer zone markers have been installed along the Price River along that drainages east bank, as noted in the September, '98 inspection report.

4a. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS

The disturbed area ditch located between the warehouse and the Hilfiker wall which carries mine water and disturbed area runoff to pond 001A has had some cleaning performed to keep it in compliance. The deposition of sediment from the mine water coming from the underground conveyors necessitates continual maintenance of this diversion. The permittee has installed several silt fences in this ditch to catch oils from the hydrocarbons. These oils are now being effectively extracted from the mine water through the "FRAC" tank which the permittee has installed.

The permittee has returned the inlet ditch on the south side of sediment pond 011A to over specification.

4c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES

The permittee has repaired and grouted the inlet to the catch basin located at the railcar loading area west of the Price River.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The permittee is hauling and placing mine development material on the School House Canyon waste rock pile. This material is brought out of the Mine and placed in a temporary waste storage pile by the portals. It was recommended to Mr. Pappas that the temporary storage site be permitted.

9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

The feed line which supplies water to the raw water or process water impoundment for the coal washing process is either crushed or partially blocked, as it can only provide 25% of normal volume. This is a problem; as a result, the Price River Water Improvement District (PRWID) had installed an internal combustion powered pump in the stream buffer zone at the very edge of the east bank of the Price River, directly across from the raw water pond. This was reported to the permittee on an earlier occasion, and the pump was pulled out of the stream buffer zone with the intention of extending the suction line to the River. The permittee has sufficient water rights in place to allow this.

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PRWID has seen fit to reinstall this pump inside the stream buffer zone, again to supply water. It appears that the permittee has condoned this action, as they have failed to make PRWID extend the section line to the River, and/or repair the feed line to the process water pond. A notice of violation (N98-46-3-2, 1 of 2) was issued for "conducting coal mining operations within 100 feet of a perennial stream (Price River) without specific authorization from the Utah DOGM."

17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

As noted in the September '98 inspection report, accumulations of coal fines were building underneath the surface conveyors starting at the Willow Creek belt portal and extending to the belt drive located for conveyor SC-5. The vegetation on the outslope ENE of the run-of-mine coal stockpile is black. Other accumulations vary in quantity. The worst areas noted were the drive area of SC-5, the SC-1/SC-2 transfer, the belt magnet on SC-1, and the belt exit of the long tunnel (Castle Gate side). A notice of violation (N98-46-3-2, 2 of 2) was issued based on the fact that the permittee failed to meet the terms and conditions of the approved mining and reclamation plan stated under section 4.4.2.1, Fugitive Dust Control for conveyor systems.

Although the following paragraph is not relative to transportation facilities, it is relative to the control of fugitive dust generating materials. As observed during the 10/19/98 inspection, excessive quantities of fines (a mixture of coal and rock dust) was observed about the shop building in the Willow Creek Mine portal area. Two small piles of carbonaceous material were observed; one had been run over by rubber tired machinery numerous times, crushing it to powder. In much of the paved area surrounding the shop, sufficient dust generating material was present to justify inclusion of same in the aforementioned notice of violation. Again, the permittee failed to meet the terms and conditions of the approved mining and reclamation plan with regard to the implementation of fugitive dust control measures for operating areas as discussed under section 4.4.2.1.

This area is approximately 150 feet from the Willow Creek channel. Photographs have been taken of the aforementioned rule infractions.

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: Johnny Pappas (Plateau) Henry Austin (OSM)
Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office
Date: October 26, 1998

Inspector's Signature: Peter Hess #46
Peter Hess