

0026



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: 9/2/98 / 2:00p.m.-3:00p.m.
Date of Last Inspection: 8/31/98

Mine Name: Willow Creek Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/038
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
Business Address: P. O. Drawer PMC, Price, Utah 84501
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface Prep. Plant Other
Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas was informed that pictures were going to be taken today
State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Sunny, Warm
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.

Table with 5 columns: EVALUATED, N/A, COMMENTS, NOV/ENF. Rows include: 1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE; 2. SIGNS AND MARKERS; 3. TOPSOIL; 4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE; 5. EXPLOSIVES; 6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES; 7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS; 8. NONCOAL WASTE; 9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES; 10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE; 11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION; 12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING; 13. REVEGETATION; 14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL; 15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS; 16. ROADS; 17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES; 18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS; 19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) (date); 20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT; 21. BONDING & INSURANCE.



INSPECTION REPORT
(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/038

DATE OF INSPECTION: 9/2/98

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Note: This report is intended as a follow up to the August 31, 1998 inspection report for the site; it is relative to actions being taken by the permittee with regard to the hydrocarbons encountered under ground as the gob caves behind the longwall shields.

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

Cyprus Willow Creek continues to attempt to determine the technology necessary to safely and environmentally consciously handle the hydrocarbon issue at the Mine. Since 8/31/98, the permittee has installed two "FRAC" tanks (water/oil separators from oil field technology) at the site to remove the hydrocarbons from the mine water pump out. One "frac" tank has been installed at the Mine portal in line with the mine water discharge line. The oil is collected; the water is discharged back into the ditch where it reports to pond 001A, (surface facilities pond). The other "frac" tank is located on the pond 001A access clean out road and is skimming hydrocarbon/water mix from the surface of same. Surface booms have been installed to confine the oils in two areas: 1) at the pond 001A inlet, and 2) on the west corner of the pond. Photos have been taken.

Cyprus is still transferring water from pond 001A to pond 013A via truck. The permittee mentioned that they would like to install a pump line from 001A to 013A; no new disturbance would be created, as the new line would run through the rock tunnels to the wash plant area. An amendment will be submitted.

As the capacity of pond 013A is now being used for water storage, the permittee should determine what the maximum allowable water level in the pond can be, and still have sufficient capacity to contain the design storm. The permittee is obviously putting water into this pond much faster than it is evaporating, especially considering the high humidity levels Carbon County is experiencing this year. They may soon run out of storage volume at pond 013A. Pond 013A is an MSHA pond. The permittee has previously been granted a reduction in inspection frequency for pond 013A from MSHA. As the status of that pond has now changed, in that it is containing an increased water volume, it is recommended that the permittee return to the weekly inspection routine in order to keep in compliance with MSHA.

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: September 3, 1998

Inspector's Signature:  #46
Peter Hess