

INSPECTION REPORT

Partial Complete XXX Exploration
 Inspection Date: 4/21 & 23/2003 / Time: 10-11a.m./8:30a.m.-1p.m.
 Date of Last Inspection: 03/26/2003

Mine Name: Willow Creek Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: C/007/038
 Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Plateau Mining Corporation
 Business Address: P.O. Box 30, Helper, Utah 84526
 Company Official(s): Mr. Johnny Pappas, Senior Environmental Engineer
 State Official(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None
 Weather Conditions: 4/21, sunny, cool /
 Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface Prep Plant Other
 Existing Acreage: Permitted 14670 Disturbed 161.55 Regraded Seeded
 Status: Active

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a.	DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b.	SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c.	OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d.	WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e.	EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.	CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.	BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.	REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14.	SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.	CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.	ROADS:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
a.	CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b.	DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17.	OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18.	SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19.	AVS CHECK (4 th Quarter- April, May, June)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20.	AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21.	BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

The current permit issued by the DOGM remains in effect until April 24, 2006.

The only permit condition in place within the current DOGM permit is that the permittee must submit all surface and groundwater monitoring information to the Division through the electronic data input system, effective the second quarter of 2001. The permittee has been meeting this requirement for several years now.

2. SIGNS AND MARKERS

The permittee has made the necessary repairs to the stream buffer zone signs along the Willow Creek channel across from pond 001A (Mine site sediment pond).

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

Mr. Pappas performed the first quarter 2003 impoundment inspections for the permittee on March 31, 2003. There were no hazardous conditions or signs of instability reported for any of the inspected impoundments.

Pond 020 (sediment control for the Adit #1 area) was reclaimed during January. Adit #1 was part of the Castle Gate #3 Mine, but was inspected along with the impoundments associated with the Willow Creek Mine.

4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

The fourth quarter 2002 water monitoring data for the Willow Creek permit area was uploaded to the Division's EDI on January 3, 2003.

To date, the permittee has monitored and received analytical data for the following water monitoring sites: B5, B6, B151, and B3N for the first quarter of 2003. B3N showed a reported cation/anion balance of -10.9%. Mr. Pappas indicated that the permittee is having a problem with the laboratory performing the water analyses, as high values for the oil and grease parameter have recently shown up for several samples.

Discharge monitoring reports for the sites UPDES outfalls were reviewed for the months of December 2002 through March 2003. There were no outfalls from any of the discharge points during the four-month period. All reports were submitted to the required government agencies in a timely manner.

4E. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The permittee notified the Utah Division of Water Quality on January 23 that pond 020 which was located at Adit #1 had been reclaimed. The permittee also notified DWQ that it would continue to submit discharge monitoring reports for the 020 outfall until it was removed from the UPDES permit. That permit is currently up for renewal. Mr. Pappas was notified prior to today's inspection that the new permit would be mailed on April 24, 2003, six days prior to the expiration of the current permit.

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7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

Mr. John Borla conducted the first quarter of 2003 waste rock pile inspection on March 5, 2003. There were no signs of instability or structural weakness reported by Mr. Borla. The inspection report was signed, stamped and dated by Mr. Borla (Utah certified P. E.) on the day of the inspection.

14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL

The permittee submitted the 2002 annual subsidence monitoring survey as part of the annual report to the Division on March 7, 2003. The mine ceased coal extraction activities in July of 2000. According to the most recently submitted survey, "no substantial subsidence has occurred over the area due to mining. Subsequent monitoring of the control points that exhibited slight movement in prior years, show no substantial subsidence".

The subsidence report indicates that since the mine is being reclaimed, an amendment will be submitted to the Division to discontinue subsidence monitoring for the permit area. To date, that amendment has not been received.

18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS

The permittee initiated demolition of the surface structures in Crandall Canyon on April 7, 2003. Nielsen Construction is the contractor who is performing the work. The seals on the shafts were inspected with Mr. Kimball Rasmussen, Project Manager. The seals are venting mine gases. The concentration of methane is not known. Mr. Rasmussen asked permission to place dirt about the perimeter of the caps to slow the venting. Nielsen employees have been instructed to make methane checks according to MSHA requirements when conducting any type of work within fifty feet of the #1 shaft.

Nielsen is removing the metal siding from the buildings by removing the sheet metal screws.

Cardboard boxes that previously held drill core were observed to have been dumped in the area, the boxes being free to become wind borne about the area. The permittee instructed the contractor to pick these up and dispose of them in a proper manner.

The site inspection conducted on 4/21/2003 revealed that the contractor has removed the hoist building; only the drum of the hoist remains on that foundation. The metal siding on the NE side of the #1 airshaft has been removed; this building has been used for storage of files and technical information since the shafts were temporarily sealed in the early nineties. At this point, work has slowed because of the need for the permittee to make a decision relative to the future of the files.

The crusher building at the preparation plant and the conveyor which reported to the raw coal stacking tube have been razed; the contractor is currently cleaning up what remains of the structures for final disposal. The raw coal stacking tube will be pulled over when the conveyor structures that have been purchased by Savage Industries have been transported from the site.

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19. AVS CHECK

The permittee submitted, as part of the 2002 annual report for the Willow Creek site a registration information change form identical to the form submitted to and received by the Utah Department of Commerce on August 20, 2002. That form enumerates two changes in corporate personnel, those being the termination of John M. DeMichiei as President and Director of Plateau Mining Company and the establishment of T. J. Lien as President of that Company.

An examination of the applicant violator system on April 10, 2003 reveals that the changes described on the Utah Department of Commerce registration information change form correlate with the AVS information.

21. BONDING AND INSURANCE

The current general liability insurance remains in affect until June 30, 2003.

Inspector's Signature: _____ Date: May 1, 2003
Peter Hess #46

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining.

cc: James Fulton, OSM
Johnny Pappas, Plateau
Price Field office
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