



The State of Utah
 Department of
 Natural Resources
 Division of
 Oil, Gas & Mining

ROBERT L. MORGAN
Executive Director

LOWELL P. BRAXTON
Division Director

OLENE S. WALKER
Governor

GAYLE F. McKEACHNIE
Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:

Company Johnny Pappas Sr. Environmental Engineer

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070038
Inspection Type:	COMPLETE
Inspection Date:	Thursday, January 22, 2004
Start Date/Time:	01/22/2004 8:40:00 AM
End Date/Time:	01/22/2004 1:30:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Monday, December 22, 2003

Inspector: Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: Sunny, clear; very cold; temp range 10-20 degrees.

InspectionID Report Number: 153

Accepted by: pgrubaug
 01/23/2004

Permittee: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**
 Operator: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**
 Site: **WILLOW CREEK MINE**
 Address: **847 NW HWY 191, HELPER UT 84526**
 County: **CARBON**
 Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**
 Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

14,670.00	Total Permitted
161.55	Total Disturbed
	Phase I
	Phase II
	Phase III

Mineral Ownership

- Federal
- State
- County
- Fee
- Other

Types of Operations

- Underground
- Surface
- Loadout
- Processing
- Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The permittee notified the Division on January 19, 2004 that work has been initiated at the School House Canyon waste rock facility. Scrapers are hauling material to dozers, which are backfilling certain cutslopes on the refuse pile. Rocks which filled the undisturbed diversion designated as CGD-5 (from the earth quake of 3/6/2000) are being relocated with a trackhoe for use as backfill material. CGD-5 (the undisturbed ditch located at the base of the NW escarpment) is being reclaimed.

Inspector's Signature: _____

Date Friday, January 23, 2004

Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Inspector ID Number: 46

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

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REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENT

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 Not Applicable.*
 - b. *For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.*
2. *Document any noncompliance situation by reference 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, Divison Orders, and amendments.*

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The current State of Utah permit, issued by the Division remains in effect until April 24, 2006. The only permit condition in place is the requirement to submit all surface and ground water monitoring information to the Division in an electronic format. The permittee has been meeting this requirement since the second quarter of 2001.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

Many of the site's diversions remain under frozen compacted snow.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

The fourth quarter of 2003 impoundment inspections for the site were conducted by Mr. Pappas on November 11, 2003. There were no signs of instability or other hazards noted by Mr. Pappas during the permittee's inspections. Ponds 014 and 015 (Crandall Canyon surface facilities) were reclaimed in August and September, 2003 respectively. The Price City water department has repaired the overflow culvert for the raw water process pond. This was previously noted as not being capable of functioning. All of the site's remaining sediment ponds (001, 002, 011, 013, 12A, and 12B) either had snow covered bottoms, or contained frozen snow melt. There were no problems noted.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

Discharge monitoring reports for the months of September through November 2003 were reviewed (hard copies forwarded to DEQ/DWQ and EPA). There were no outfalls from any of the ponds during the three month period; the permittee continues to submit DMR forms for ponds 014 and 015, which as noted above, have been reclaimed. The permittee submitted the third quarter of 2003 water monitoring information for the Willow Creek permit area on December 29, 2003. As the result of a Division analysis of all permittee water monitoring information, it was determined on January 2, 2004, that sample data for monitoring points 001(sediment pond outfall) and points B-25 and B-26 at Willow Creek had not been submitted. Mr. Pappas addressed the missing sample information well in advance of today's inspection.

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

The permittee's current UPDES permit was renewed in April of 2003. According to Mr. Pappas, all sediment ponds will be removed from the site during reclamation.

7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments

Mr. John Borla, P.E., conducted the fourth quarter waste rock pile inspection/certification for the School House Canyon area on November 11, 2003. At that time, the pile was inactive. There were no hazards or signs of structural integrity noted by the permittee's qualified person. The P.E. certification was performed by Mr. Borla on the same day. As observed this day, Nielson Constuction is actively pursuing the reshaping of the facility; a large dozer was pushing refuse to the SW, elongating the outslope. Topsoil material has been recovered from the outslope located between the first and second bench above sediment pond 013. The upper two switchbacks of the School House access road have been made unusable by the pushing of material down the outslope. On the top of the pile, scrapers were removing material from the drainage location and transporting it to the NW side of the pile for placement against the slope by a second dozer. Rock trucks were hauling rock from the CGD-5 ditch cleanout to the lower Canyon for future use as riprap. A hydraulic breaker was used to break the huge piece of escarpment which came to rest on the waste rock pile as a result of the 03/06/2000 earthquake.

9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues

The riparian area along the Price River adjacent to the rail loadout facility is being destroyed; beaver have cut down many of the aspen trees along the channel. The permittee is concerned about this, based on the fact that they may be considered responsible for the damage. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has been contacted relative to this concern.

11. Contemporaneous Reclamation

There is no contemporaneous reclamation occurring at the Willow Creek site at the present time. All activities are considered final reclamation.

14. Subsidence Control

The permittee received Division approval on July 11, 2003 to discontinue subsidence monitoring within the Mine permit area, (C/007/038-AM03B).

16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing

As previously noted, part of the School House Canyon access has been destroyed via the reshaping of the outslope. Access to the top of the waste rock facility is via a newly constructed road made in waste material.

16.b Roads: Drainage Controls

Many of the road drainage controls were under frozen compacted snow, making them not inspectable.

17. Other Transportation Facilities

Mr. Pappas indicated this day that the train loading facility is to be dismantled for re-assembly at another location. That demolition may be postponed until the remainder of the reclamation in the Castle Gate area is completed.

18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations

The substation located in Barn Canyon (Castle Gate area) and the substation at the Mine facilities area will remain as part of the approved post mining land uses. A hydraulic shear continues to cut on the metal structure which was once the main wash plant building (Castle Gate area).

21. Bonding and Insurance

The permittee's general liability insurance coverage was renewed on January 1, 2004, for a period of one year. Coverage amounts for aggregate and each occurrence are adequate. Coverage for damage incurred from the use of explosives is provided. All notification requirements relative to cancellation of coverage have been adequately addressed.