



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:	PARTIAL
Inspection Date:	Monday, February 23, 2004
Start Date/Time:	02/23/2004 10:00:00 AM
End Date/Time:	02/24/2004 12:00:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Thursday, January 29, 2004

Inspector: Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: Overcast, warm; temp mid to upper thirties, F;

InspectionID Report Number: 181

Accepted by: pgrubaug
 02/24/2004

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 site received approximately three inches of heavy wet snow over the week, with some rain overnight. Ground conditions were very muddy/slushy. The work in School House Canyon has been put on hold for 2/23/2004 due to soft ground conditions, but resumed on 02/24/2004.

Inspector's Signature: _____

Date Tuesday, February 24, 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input 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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The permittee received final Division approval to implement an additional post mining land use classification for the Mine facilities area on February 19, 2004. The additional classification is to allow the facilities to be retained for an "industrial" use.

3. Topsoil

The permittee has proposed using material from the main Willow Creek topsoil pile (mine facilities area) for the reclamation of the wash plant facility. The reasoning behind this is that a shorter hauling distance would be utilized and the hazard of bringing big trucks onto US highway 6 from the Gravel Canyon area would be eliminated. Mr. Pappas has indicated that if a deficiency in soil volumes became apparent, then soil from the Gravel Canyon area would be utilized to adjust that deficiency in volume. The review of this proposal is pending.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

Due to the recent snowfall, many of the site's diversions were under snow, although thawing was occurring. Diversions which were visible appeared to be capable of functioning as designed.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

Ponds 001A and 002A were snow covered. Ponds 011A, 012A, and 012B were partially frozen over. Pond 013A has been partially reclaimed as part of the outslope reshaping in School House Canyon.

4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

The areas which utilize other methods of sediment control are becoming more visible as warmer temperatures prevail. All appear to be functioning as intended.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

According to Mr. Pappas, there have not been any ground or surface water monitoring sites visited during the months of January or February, 2004. It is the permittee's intent to conduct the first quarter 2004 monitoring during March. The permittee notified the Division on January 28, 2004 that the fourth quarter water monitoring information for the Willow Creek permit area was ready for uploading to the Division's electronic database. The permittee reported "no access" for sample site B3N with the fourth quarter information, due to the channel being frozen. Sampling was not possible. The "no access" topic was discussed with Mr. Pappas, and it was decided that when sampling is not possible due to frozen conditions, then that information should be entered as such into the database.

7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments

The School House Canyon area was not accessible on 2/23/04 due to extremely soft ground conditions. According to Mr. Pappas, the placing of topsoil is occurring on the upper end of that facility. Work was resumed on the project on 2/24/04. Work continues in the drainage area, with two dozers pushing material toward the outslope to bring the channel to finish grade. A backhoe is working in the upper end of the facility, and is tying the ditch which paralleled the access road into the drainage established on that end of the pile. Some topsoil has been spread on the slope above the NE corner of the facility. The depth of that material is three feet, and it was recovered from the slope adjacent to the ditch which was filled with rubble from the 3/7/2000 earthquake.

8. Noncoal Waste

The demolition of the wash plant facility is essentially complete; piles of various types of construction material have been placed in the area for final disposal. Some will be disposed of at the site. Other types of material such as steel, will be sold as scrap and hauled from the site. A hydraulic shear continues to work at the site, but the availability of shearable steel is nearly gone.

9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues

The effect that the beaver are having in the Willow Creek riparian area (removal of the aspen trees which provide shade for the fish) adjacent to the rail loading facility is in the evaluation process by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

12. Backfilling And Grading

The area which was previously occupied by the wash plant thickener is being backfilled with concrete rubble.

18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations

Nielson Construction was screening coal on the clean coal storage pad. This is coal which has been recovered from scraping areas of that pad, as well as the slope above the pad which had been permitted for additional coal storage. The refining is being performed prior to shipment of this product to the Wildcat Loadout (Andalex Resources) facility.

22. Other

The permittee has had Nielson Construction dig five test pits in the area of the raw coal storage side of the processing plant to evaluate the depths to which carbonaceous material exists. The first pit is adjacent to the cut bank, directly ENE of the former crusher building location. Pit #2 lies close to the former location of the raw coal stacking tube. The other three pits are located east of the wash plant access road, with the most northern pit being located south of the southern corner of the thickener draining incisement. Five more pits are to be dug in the clean coal storage pad area. Mr. Pappas intends to use the information gathered to determine the soil volumes which will be available for reclamation. Ms. Priscilla Burton of the Salt Lake technical staff, was on site on 2/24/04 to sample the soil pits, as well as obtain samples from the refuse beneath the drainage in School House Canyon.