



**0024 U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Mine Site Evaluation
State Program**



*ENCLOSURE
4/007/0038
Copy PFO*

1. Permittee/Person PLATEAU MINING CORP (PMC)		9. Permit Number UT-007-038	10. Permit Type PP
2. Address P.O. BOX 30, 847 NW HWY 19		11. Field Visit Date 06/08/2006 <small>mm - dd - yyyy</small>	12. Purpose OBR
3. City Helper	4. State UT	13. SRA Present Y	15. Site Status MC
5. Zip Code 84526	6. Phone Number (435) 637-2875	16. Facility Type BDEFG	17. OSM Office # 140
7. Operator Name, if Different than Permittee		18. CCID #	19. Land Code SF
8. Mine Name WILLOW CREEK MINE		20. M.S.H.A ID # 42-00165	21. State Abrev. UT
		22. County Name CARBON	23. AVS Permittee Entity ID Number
		24. State Office	

25. Hours	26. Signature Block	27. Reviewing Official:
2.0 a. Permit Review	<i>Henry Austin</i> Signature: 6/13/06	<i>James Fulton</i> Signature:
6.0 b. Site Visit Time	Printed Name: HENRY AUSTIN ID # 116	Review Date: 6 13 2006 <small>mm - dd - yyyy</small>
8.0 c. Travel Time	Date: 06/13/2006	Is Supplemental MSE Page Used Y/N Y
2.0 d. Report Writing		

Permit Type — Item 10 IP = Interim Program, PP = Permanent Program, NP = No Permit

Purpose Type Codes Item 12

Oxx.... Oversight	RFX.... Reclamation Fees	CCR.... Citizen Complaint Referral (non site visit)
Axx.... Assistance	Fxx.... Federal Actions	CC.... Citizen Complaint (initial site visit)
		CCF.... Citizen Complaint Follow-up

Joint Inspection — Item 13 A joint inspection is when a state inspector accompanies an OSM inspector any time during the review of the mine site.

Permit Status — Item 14

A.... Active: Coal mining and reclamation activities occurring or permitted but not yet disturbed.	AB.... Abandoned: All surface and underground coal mining activities have ceased and operator has left the site without completing reclamation as defined in 30 CFR 840.11(g)
IN.... Inactive (Permanent Program Permit): Phase II completed or Temporary Cessation of Operations. (Interim Program Permit) Coal mining completed and reclamation activities initiated.	AB1.. Bond Forfeiture: Bond forfeiture officially in process or completed, and reclamation in progress or not yet commenced.
BR... Bond Release: Reclamation completed and State Regulatory Authority (RA) has released all of the bond (Phase III Release.)	AB2.. Partially Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site where all bonds have been used to reclaim site, but site not reclaimed to Program standards.
	AB3.. Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site that has been reclaimed to Program standards.
	NA.... Not Applicable: When site is unpermitted.

Site Status Codes — Item 15

ND... No Disturbance: No coal mining and reclamation operations have been started.	MC.. Mining Complete: No mining activity on site, site regraded and awaiting phase bond release.	NS.. Non-Site Visit: Status of site not determined.
EX... Coal Exploration: Coal exploration operations have started and where coal mining operations have not begun.	TC.. Temporary Cessation: The RA has granted cessation of mining pursuant to 30 CFR 816/817.131(b).	FP.. Forfeiture Pending: The RA is pursuing actions to revoke the permit, collect the performance bond(s), and/or reclamation of forfeited site is in progress.
AP... Active Coal Producing: Coal surface mining activities are occurring.	P1... Phase I Release: At least Phase I bond release granted for entire permitted area. For interim permits, partial bond release.	FR.. Forfeited and Reclaimed: Forfeiture reclamation completed.
AN.. Active Non-Producing: Active non-producing facility such as tipple or preparation plant.	P2.. Phase II Release: At least Phase II bond release for the entire permitted area.	FO.. Abandoned Site: Abandoned site that is permitted but there is no bond.
NM... No Mining: The Permit Status is active, site is not in Temporary Cessation, no surface coal mining activity, and site not regraded.	P3.. Phase III Release: Reclamation completed and the RA has released all bond.	WC.. Wildcat: Coal mining and reclamation operations have or are taking place and the activity is not covered by the required permits from the RA.

Facility Type Codes — Item 16

A... Surface	D... Ancillary (Haulroad, Conveyor, and/or Rails)	H... Exploration Permits	L... Remaining site permitted under 30 CFR 785.25
B... Underground	E... Refuse and/or Impoundment	I... Notice of Intent to Explore	
C... Preparation Plant	F... Loading Facility and/or Tipple	J... Exempt 16 and 2/3	
	G... Stockpiles	K... Government Financed Construction Exemption	

**Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA)
Your Comments Are Important**

The Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were established to receive comments from small businesses about Federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman will annually evaluate the enforcement activities and responsiveness to small business. If you are a small business (a business with 500 or fewer employees including those of affiliates) and wish to comment on the enforcement or compliance activities of OSM, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

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JUN 16 2006

DATE OF OPERATION & MINING

U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Mine Site Evaluation

State Program
Continuation Page

Permittee/
Person **PLATEAU MINING CORP**

Permit
Number **UT-007-038**

Field Visit
Date **06/08/2006**

28. Performance Standard Categories

Codes: 1=Compliance, 2=Noncompliance, 3=Not Planned, 4=Not Started, 5=Noncompliance Identified Elsewhere, 6=Previously Cited

A. Administrative 1. ___ Mining within Valid Permit 2. ___ Mining within Bonded Area 3. <u>1</u> Terms & Conditions of Permit 4. ___ Liability Insurance 5. ___ Ownership and Control 6. ___ Temporary Cessation 7. ___ AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondent 8. ___ AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay B. Hydrologic Balance 1. <u>1</u> Drainage Control 2. ___ Inspections & Certifications 3. ___ Siltation Structures 4. ___ Discharge Structures 5. ___ Diversions 6. ___ Effluent Limits 7. ___ Ground Water Monitoring 8. ___ Surface Water Monitoring 9. ___ Drainage -- Acid-Toxic Materials 10. ___ Impoundments 11. ___ Stream Buffer Zones C. Topsoil & Subsoil 1. <u>1</u> Removal 2. <u>1</u> Substitute Materials 3. <u>1</u> Storage and Protection 4. <u>1</u> Redistribution	D. Backfilling & Grading 1. <u>1</u> Exposed Openings 2. <u>1</u> Contemporaneous Reclamation 3. <u>1</u> Approximate Original Contour 4. <u>1</u> Highwall Elimination 5. <u>1</u> Steep Slopes (includes downslope) 6. <u>1</u> Handling of Acid & Toxic Materials 7. <u>1</u> Stabilization (rills and gullies) E. Excess Spoil Disposal 1. <u>3</u> Placement 2. <u>3</u> Drainage Control 3. <u>3</u> Surface Stabilization 4. <u>3</u> Inspections & Certifications F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments) 1. <u>3</u> Drainage Control 2. <u>3</u> Surface Stabilization 3. <u>3</u> Placement 4. <u>3</u> Inspections and Certifications 5. <u>3</u> Impounding Structures G. Use Of Explosives 1. <u>3</u> Blaster Certification 2. <u>3</u> Distance Prohibitions 3. <u>3</u> Blast Survey/Schedule 4. <u>3</u> Warnings & Records 5. <u>3</u> Control of Adverse Effects	H. <u>3</u> Subsidence Control Plan I. Roads 1. <u>1</u> Road Construction 2. <u>1</u> Certification 3. <u>1</u> Drainage 4. <u>1</u> Surfacing and Maintenance 5. <u>1</u> Reclamation J. Signs & Markers 1. <u>1</u> Signs 2. <u>1</u> Markers K. <u>1</u> Distance Prohibitions L. Revegetation 1. <u>1</u> Vegetative Cover 2. <u>1</u> Timing M. <u>1</u> Postmining Land Use N. Other General Performance Category <u>M</u> <u>1</u> 1) Phase I & III bond release ___ ___ 2) _____ ___ ___ 3) _____
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Performance Standard Categories 30 CFR Counterpart	
A. Administrative.....(816/817.71-74) 1. Valid Permit.....773.11 2. Mining within Bonded Area.....773.11 3. Terms & Conditions of Permit.....773.17 4. Liability Insurance.....800.60 5. Ownership and Control.....778.13 6. Temporary Cessation.....842.11(e) & 816/817.131 7. AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondant.....870.15(b) 8. AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay.....870.15(a) B. Hydrologic Balance.....(816/817.41-57) 1. Drainage Control.....45 2. Inspections & Certifications.....49(a)(10) 3. Siltation Structures.....46 4. Discharge Structures.....47 5. Diversions.....43 6. Effluent Limits.....42 7. Ground Water Monitoring.....41(c) 8. Surface Water Monitoring.....41(e) 9. Drainage--Acid - Toxic Materials.....41(f) 10. Impoundments.....49 11. Stream Buffer Zones.....57 C. Topsoil & Subsoil.....(816/817.22) 1. Removal.....22(a) 2. Substitute Materials.....22(c) 3. Storage and Protection.....22(c) 4. Redistribution.....22(d) D. Backfilling & Grading.....(816/817.95-107) 1. Exposed Openings.....816/817.13, 14, 15, & 823.11 & 21 2. Contemporaneous Reclamation.....100 3. Approximate Original Contour.....102(a)(1) 4. Highwall Elimination.....102(a)(2) 5. Steep Slopes (includes downslope).....107 6. Handling of Acid & Toxic Materials.....102(c) 7. Stabilization (rills and gullies).....95(b)	E. Excess Spoil Disposal.....(816/817.71-74) 1. Placement.....71(e) 2. Drainage Control.....71(f) 3. Surface Stabilization.....71(g) 4. Inspections & Certifications.....71(h) F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments)(816/817.81-84) 1. Drainage Control.....83(a) 2. Surface Stabilization.....83(b) 3. Placement.....83(c) 4. Inspections and Certifications.....83(d) 5. Impounding Structures.....84 G. Use of Explosives.....(816/817.61-68) 1. Blaster Certification.....61(c) 2. Distance Prohibitions.....61(d) 3. Blast Survey/Schedule.....62-64 4. Warnings & Records.....66 & 68 5. Control of Adverse Effects.....67 H. Subsidence Control Plan.....(817.121-122) I. Roads.....(816/817.150-151) 1. Road Construction.....150(c) 2. Certification.....151(a) 3. Drainage.....150(b)-151(d) 4. Surfacing and Maintenance.....150(e)-151(d) 5. Reclamation.....150(f) J. Signs & Markers(816/817.11) 1. Signs.....11(a),(b),&(c) 2. Markers.....11(a),(b),(d),(e),&(f) K. Distance Prohibitions.....(761.11) L. Revegetation.....(816/817.111-116) 1. Vegetative Cover.....111 & 116 2. Timing.....113 M. Postmining Land Use.....(816/817.133)

June 8, 2006

Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC)
P.O. Box 30
847 NW HWY 191
Helper, UT 84526

Willow Creek Mine
Phase I & Phase III Bond release inspections
June 8, 2006

Participants:

Dennis Ware, PMC
Kim Noyes, PMC
Sue Burger, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Pam Grubaugh-Littig, Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (OGM)
Dana Dean, OGM
Wayne Western, OGM
Joe Helfrich, OGM
Priscilla Burton, OGM
Henry Austin, Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

I participated in a Phase I & III bond release inspection of the Willow Creek Mine. The Phase I bond release request applies to the backfilling, grading and surface water runoff control of the former coal conveyor corridor and associated disturbance; the former paved haulroad; and the former topsoil stockpile and office trailer location just south of Willow Creek and adjacent to the highway. The Phase I release area is approximately 20.8 acres. The Phase III bond release request applies to approximately 36.4 acres consisting of the mine entrance / access road, facilities sediment pond, parking lot and former laydown / storage areas, the three mine facility buildings, propane storage area, reclaimed portal entries, and the raw and culinary water storage tanks and pump house. All these areas, buildings, and support facilities now have an approved post mining land use change to industrial use to facilitate the Western Energy Training Center (WETC).

Mr. Ware provided us with a site overview using maps in the office, then we began the inspection. We began at the northern end of the Phase I release area adjacent to where the refuse pile drainage channel intersects the paved haulroad. The former coal conveyor route and adjacent slopes in this area were reclaimed and seeded during the spring of 2004. These areas appeared stable with vegetation becoming established. No problems were noted in this area. Surface water runoff does not appear to be a problem here.

We next inspected the sediment pond area. The pond is dry, the embankment and principle spillway appear stable, and this pond does not have a discharge history. Mr. Ware discussed eventually changing the post mining land use for the 3.9 acres associated with the sediment pond to industrial use to better facilitate the WETC. The reclaimed short tunnel and long tunnel areas associated with the reclaimed coal conveyor corridor are located just west of the sediment pond.

Willow Creek Mine, pg. 2

These areas are also stable and vegetation is becoming established. These areas were reclaimed and seeded during the fall of 2004. We discussed the water monitoring (flow weir) locations in Willow Creek in this area and when it could be appropriate to eliminate them. Engineering certification and permanent impoundment documentation for the sediment pond were discussed but not reviewed during the inspection.

Surface water runoff does not appear to be a problem on the areas inspected. Land imprinting (gouging-roughening the surface of final reclaimed areas to reduce surface water runoff.) appears effective on the areas inspected. Reclaimed slopes of the coal conveyor tunnels are well blended into surrounding undisturbed topography. We inspected the reclaimed topsoil stockpile footprint area and the former office trailer location. These areas are stable and becoming vegetated.

We next inspected the propane storage pad and access road; reclaimed portal slope; mine facility buildings; and the raw and culinary water storage and pump house areas. These areas appear stable with no problems noted; and all these buildings and support facilities will be used by the WETC.

We held a close out meeting where Mrs. Grubaugh-Littig summarized the inspection findings; and we discussed further processing of the bond release application, including sedimentation modeling and the engineering certification and demonstrations necessary for the permanent water impoundment (sedimentation pond). No public comments have been received to date by OGM regarding this bond release application. This concluded the inspection.

Please address any questions concerning this report to Henry Austin, Senior Reclamation Specialist, at haustin@osmre.gov or to (303) 8441-400 x1466.