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State of Utah

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Department of
Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith
Executive Director

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
Walter L. Baker, P.E.
Director

C/007/038 Incoming
CC: April
Steve D. &

November 9, 2009

Mr. Dennis Ware, Environmental Coordinator
Plateau Mining Corp.
PO Box 30
Helper, Utah 84526

Subject: Reconnaissance Inspection – UPDES Permit No. UTG040012, Willow Creek Mine.

Dear Mr. Ware:

On November 4, 2009 I conducted a reconnaissance inspection, while already in the area, in regards to the former Willow Creek Mine facility and UPDES Permit No. UTG040012. Specifically I observed the reclaimed areas, outfall location, and receiving waters. No deficiencies were observed and no response is required at this time. As noted in the inspection and in previous correspondences, the remaining outfalls have been inactivated and DMRs will not need to be submitted so long as the potential to discharge remains obviated.

Enclosed is a copy of the inspection report for your records. I have appreciated your compliance efforts and in keeping me informed of the operations along the way. If you have any questions, please contact me at (801) 538-6779 or by e-mail at jstudenka@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeff Studenka, Environmental Scientist
UPDES IES Section

Enclosures

cc (w/encl): Amy Clark, EPA Region VIII
Claron Bjork, SE District Health Department
Dave Ariotti, SE District Engineer
Daron Haddock, Division of Oil Gas & Mines

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

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United States Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C. 20460

Water Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding (I.e., ICIS)

Transaction Code N	NPDES U T G 0 4 0 0 1 2	yr/mo/day 0 9 1 1 0 4	Inspection Type R	Inspector S	Fac. Type 2
1	2	3	11	12	17
Remarks					
21					
Inspection Work Days 1	Facility Self-Monitoring Evaluation Rating 5	BI N	QA N	Reserved	
67	69	70	71	72	73 74 75 80

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number) Plateau Mining Corp., Willow Creek Mine & Crandall Canyon Reclamation Sites: ~1 miles north of Helper, Utah off US 6 HWY, about 1 mile east on US 191 HWY.	Entry Time/ Date 9:15 am / 11-4-2009	Permit Effective Date 5-1-2008
	Exit Time/ Date 9:30 am / 11-4-2009	Permit Expiration Date 4-30-2013
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) N/A	Other Facility Data (e.g., SIC NAICS, and other descriptive information) Inactive & reclaimed underground mining operation SIC code 1222 NAICS No. 212112	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Dennis Ware, Environmental Coordinator Plateau Mining Corp., Willow Creek Mine PO BOX 30 HELPER, UT 84526 (435) 472-0475	Contacted <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (Check only those areas evaluated)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self Monitoring Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Pretreatment	<input type="checkbox"/> MS4
<input type="checkbox"/> Records/Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Schedule	<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Prevention	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Storm Water	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<input type="checkbox"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Sewer Overflow	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flow Measurement	<input type="checkbox"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer Overflow	

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments

(Attach additional sheets of narrative and checklists, including Single Event Violation codes, as necessary)

SEV Codes	SEV Description

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) JEFF STUDENKA, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST <i>Jeff Studenka</i>	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Number(s) DWQ (801) 538-6779	Date: 11-6-09
N/A		
Name and Signature of Management Q A Reviewer MIKE HERKIMER, MANAGER UPDES IES SECTION <i>Mike Herkimer</i>	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Number(s) DWQ (801) 538-6058	Date: 11/12/09

INSPECTION PROTOCOL

UPDES Permit #: UTG040012
Inspection Type: Reconnaissance Inspection
Inspection Date: November 4, 2009
Weather Conditions: Sunny and cool, ~35° F

Jeff Studenka of the Division of Water Quality (DWQ) visited the reclaimed Willow Creek Mine site, while already in the area. No one else was on site.

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

Location: ~1 mile East of US 6 on US 191 near Helper in Carbon County, UT 84526
Coordinates: Outfall 001 (sed. pond) latitude 39° 42' 45", longitude 110° 51' 25"

Average Flow: None to date and none expected.

Receiving waters: Willow Creek → Price River

Process: Former underground coal mining operation facility. The mining operations are no longer present and reclamation activities were completed several years ago. Outfall 001 remains on site as a sedimentation pond utilized to collect surface water runoff at the former main office facility, which has previously been sold to the College of Eastern Utah. Outfall 001 will likely never discharge due to its size and therefore has been inactivated.

INSPECTION SUMMARY

There were no deficiencies noted during the previous inspection for follow up (CEI performed 8-26-2008). A tour of the facility included observing the reclaimed areas and the sedimentation pond followed by the receiving stream of Willow Creek. There were no deficiencies observed during the inspection.

DEFICIENCIES

No deficiencies with respect to the UPDES permit were observed during the inspection.

REQUIREMENTS

None

RECOMMENDATIONS

As you know, the remaining outfall has been inactivated and you are no longer required to submit the monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) since August 2008. However, other applicable conditions of your UPDES Permit remain in effect, such as the storm water provisions, and your General Permit coverage will remain in effect until expiration or such time as final bond release is achieved. Also keep in mind that if any future discharge is to occur, you will need to reactivate the outfall status to be in compliance with your UPDES Permit as well as Water Quality Standards.

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