

C/007/038 Incoming &



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



DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

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 3/13/2012 <small>mm - dd - yyyy</small>	12. Purpose OP
3. City HELPER		14. Permit Status BR	15. Site Status P1
4. State UT		16. Facility Type ABDF	13. SRA Present Y
5. Zip Code 84526	6. Phone Number (435) 637-2875	17. OSM Office # 141	18. CCID #
7. Operator Name, if Different than Permittee		19. Land Code SF	20. M.S.H.A. ID # 42-00165
8. Mine Name WILLOW CREEK MINE, C		21. State Abbrev. UT	22. County/Burrough CARBON
		23. AVS Permittee Entity ID Number	24. State Office

25. Hours

1.0	a. Permit Review
2.5	b. Site Visit Time
14.0	c. Travel Time
4.0	d. Report Writing

26. Signature Block

*Christine Belka*  
Signature:

Christine Belka, ID#182  
Printed Name:

Date: 3/22/2012

27. Reviewing Official:

*Tom Quella*  
Signature:

Review Date: 3/23/12  
mm - dd - yyyy

Is Supplemental MSE Page Used Y/N  Y

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...Assistance

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

Permit Status - Item 14

<b>A</b> Active: Coal mining activities occurring or permitted but not yet disturbed.	<b>AB</b> 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).
<b>IN</b> Inactive (Permanent Program Permit): Phase II completed or Temporary Cessation of Operations. (Interim Program Permit): Coal mining completed and reclamation activities initiated.	<b>AB1</b> Bond Forfeiture: Bond forfeiture officially in process or completed and reclamation in progress or not yet commenced.
<b>BR</b> Bond Release: Reclamation completed and State Regulatory Authority(RA) has released all of the bond (Phase III Release).	<b>AB2</b> Partially Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site where all bonds have been used to reclaim site, but site not reclaimed to Program standards.
	<b>AB3</b> Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site that has been reclaimed to Program standards.
	<b>NA</b> Not Applicable: When site is unpermitted.

Site Status - Item 15

<b>ND</b> No Disturbance: No coal mining and reclamation operations have been started.	<b>MC</b> Mining Complete: No mining activity on site, site regraded and awaiting bond release.	<b>NS</b> Non-Site Visit: Status of site not determined.
<b>EX</b> Coal Exploration: Coal exploration operations have started and where coal mining operations have not begun.	<b>TC</b> Temporary Cessation: The RA has granted cessation of mining pursuant to 30 CFR 816/817:13(b).	<b>FP</b> 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.
<b>AP</b> Active Coal Producing: Coal surface mining activities are occurring.	<b>P1</b> Phase I Release: At least Phase I bond release granted for entire permitted area. For interim permits, partial bond release.	<b>FR</b> Forfeited and Reclaimed: Forfeiture reclamation completed.
<b>AN</b> Active Non-Producing: Active non-producing facility such as tippie or preparation plant.	<b>P2</b> Phase II Release: At least Phase II bond release for the entire permitted area.	<b>FO</b> Abandoned Site: Abandoned site that is permitted but there is no bond.
<b>NM</b> No Mining: The Permit Status is active, site is not in Temporary Cessation, no surface coal mining activity, and site not regraded.	<b>P3</b> Phase III Release: Reclamation completed and the RA has released all bond.	<b>WC</b> 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

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

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 rate each agency's 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).

U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Mine Site Evaluation

Permittee/ Person	Permit Number	Field Visit Date	State Program Continuation Page
PLATEAU MINING CORP (PMC)	UT-007-038	3/13/2012	

## 28. Performance Standard Categories

Codes: 1=Compliance, 2=Noncompliance, 3=Not Planned, 4=Not Started, 5=Noncompliance Identified Elsewhere, 6=Previously Cited, 7=Permit Defect

<p><b>A. Administrative</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Mining within Valid Permit</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Mining within Bonded Area</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Terms &amp; Conditions of Permit</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Liability Insurance</li> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership and Control</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Cessation</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> AML Rec. Fees - Non-Respondent</li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> AML Rec. Fees - Failure to Pay</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Hydrologic Balance</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage Control</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Siltation Structures</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Discharge Structures</li> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Diversions</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Effluent Limits</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Water Monitoring</li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water Monitoring</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage - Acid-Toxic Materials</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Impoundments</li> <li>11. <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Buffer Zones</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Topsoil &amp; Subsoil</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Removal</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute Materials</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Storage and Protection</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Redistribution</li> </ol>	<p><b>D. Backfilling &amp; Grading</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Exposed Openings</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Contemporaneous Reclamation</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Approximate Original Contour</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Highwall Elimination</li> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Steep Slopes (includes downslope)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Handling of Acid and Toxic Materials</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization (rills and gullies)</li> </ol> <p><b>E. Excess Spoil Disposal</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Placement</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Control</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Stabilization</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> </ol> <p><b>F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Control</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Surface Stabilization</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Placement</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Impounding Structures</li> </ol> <p><b>G. Use of Explosives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Blaster Certification</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Prohibitions</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Blast Survey/Schedule</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Warnings &amp; Records</li> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Control of Adverse Effects</li> </ol>	<p><b>H. <input type="checkbox"/> Subsidence Control Plan</b></p> <p><b>I. Roads</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Road Construction</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certification</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Surfacing and Maintenance</li> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Reclamation</li> </ol> <p><b>J. Signs &amp; Markers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signs</li> <li>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Markers</li> </ol> <p><b>K. <input type="checkbox"/> Distance Prohibitions</b></p> <p><b>L. Revegetation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vegetative Cover</li> <li>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timing</li> </ol> <p><b>M. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postmining Land Use</b></p> <p><b>N. Other</b></p> <p>General Performance Category</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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### Performance Standard Categories 30 CFR Counterparts

<p><b>A. Administrative</b> ..... 773.11</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Valid Permit ..... 773.11</li> <li>2. Mining within Bonded Area ..... 773.11</li> <li>3. Terms &amp; Conditions of Permit ..... 773.17</li> <li>4. Liability Insurance ..... 800.60</li> <li>5. Ownership and Control ..... 778.13</li> <li>6. Temporary Cessation ..... 842.11(e) &amp; 816/817.131</li> <li>7. AML Rec. Fees - Non-Respondent ..... 870.15(b)</li> <li>8. AML Rec. Fees - Failure to Pay ..... 870.15(a)</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Hydrologic Balance</b> ..... (816/817.41-57)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage Control ..... 45</li> <li>2. Inspections &amp; Certifications ..... 49(a)(10)</li> <li>3. Siltation Structures ..... 46</li> <li>4. Discharge Structures ..... 47</li> <li>5. Diversions ..... 43</li> <li>6. Effluent Limits ..... 42</li> <li>7. Ground Water Monitoring ..... 41(c)</li> <li>8. Surface Water Monitoring ..... 41(e)</li> <li>9. Drainage - Acid - Toxic Materials ..... 41(f)</li> <li>10. Impoundments ..... 49</li> <li>11. Stream Buffer Zones ..... 57</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Topsoil &amp; Subsoil</b> ..... (816/817.22)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Removal ..... 22(a)</li> <li>2. Substitute Materials ..... 22(c)</li> <li>3. Storage and Protection ..... 22(c)</li> <li>4. Redistribution ..... 22(d)</li> </ol> <p><b>D. Backfilling &amp; Grading</b> ..... 816/817.95-107</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exposed Openings ..... 816/817.13, 14, 15, &amp; 823.11 &amp; 21</li> <li>2. Contemporaneous Reclamation ..... 100</li> <li>3. Approximate Original Contour ..... 102(a)(1)</li> <li>4. Highwall Elimination ..... 102(a)(2)</li> <li>5. Steep Slopes (includes downslope) ..... 107</li> <li>6. Handling of Acid &amp; Toxic Materials ..... 102(c)</li> <li>7. Stabilization (rills and gullies) ..... 95(b)</li> </ol>	<p><b>E. Excess Spoil Disposal</b> ..... (816/817.71-74)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Placement ..... 71(e)</li> <li>2. Drainage Control ..... 71(f)</li> <li>3. Surface Stabilization ..... 71(g)</li> <li>4. Inspections &amp; Certifications ..... 71(h)</li> </ol> <p><b>F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments)</b> ..... 816/817.81-84</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage Control ..... 83(a)</li> <li>2. Surface Stabilization ..... 83(b)</li> <li>3. Placement ..... 83(c)</li> <li>4. Inspections and Certifications ..... 83(d)</li> <li>5. Impounding Structures ..... 84</li> </ol> <p><b>G. Use of Explosives</b> ..... (816/817.61-68)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Blaster Certification ..... 61(c)</li> <li>2. Distance Prohibitions ..... 61(d)</li> <li>3. Blast Survey/Schedule ..... 62-64</li> <li>4. Warnings &amp; Records ..... 66 &amp; 68</li> <li>5. Control of Adverse Effects ..... 67</li> </ol> <p><b>H. Subsidence Control Plan</b> ..... (817.121-122)</p> <p><b>I. Roads</b> ..... (816/817.150-151)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Road Construction ..... 150(c)</li> <li>2. Certification ..... 151(a)</li> <li>3. Drainage ..... 150(b)-151(d)</li> <li>4. Surfacing and Maintenance ..... 150(e)-151(d)</li> <li>5. Reclamation ..... 150(f)</li> </ol> <p><b>J. Signs &amp; Markers</b> ..... 816/817.111</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signs ..... 11(a),(b),(c)</li> <li>2. Markers ..... 11(a),(b),(d),(e),(f)</li> </ol> <p><b>K. Distance Prohibitions</b> ..... (761.11)</p> <p><b>L. Revegetation</b> ..... (816/817.111-116)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vegetative Cover ..... 111 &amp; 116</li> <li>2. Timing ..... 113</li> </ol> <p><b>M. Postmining Land Use</b> ..... (816/817.133)</p>
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### Mine Site Inspection

**Mine Name:** Willow Creek Mine

**Permittee:** Plateau Mining Corporation

**Permit ID #:** C00700038

**Inspection Date:** March 13, 2012 8:00 – 10:30

**Weather Conditions:** Mild, clear, patchy snow cover

**Participants:**

Christine Belka, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE)

Steve Demczak, Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (DOG M)

Dennis Ware, Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC)

### Field Evaluation

This was a partial oversight inspection. Willow Creek is a reclaimed underground coal mine which has received Phase I bond release. Plateau Mining plans to submit a Phase II bond release application for the remainder of the permit area this spring. The site is currently in the eighth year of its ten-year revegetation responsibility period.

The excess spoil fill area appears stable and well vegetated (see photo 6546). Surface drainage is routed to a central channel which reports directly to the Price River. No sedimentation ponds have been retained on the mine site. In accordance with R645-301-763.100, sedimentation ponds may be removed two year after the last augmented seeding of the surrounding drainage basin. As stated above, the fill and surrounding area are well vegetated and stable. A small depression at the base of the slope allows minor sedimentation prior to drainage leaving the site (see photos 6551 and 6552). No water was flowing during this inspection.

The reclaimed shafts in Crandall Canyon appear stable. Both shafts were overfilled to allow for material settlement. Both shaft areas were fenced – one with chain link, the other with plastic fencing. The plastic fencing is deteriorating; however, the backfill appears stable (see photo 6550). The old topsoil borrow area is also stable and well vegetated.

Vegetation on the reclaimed areas appears to have higher species diversity and cover than surrounding undisturbed areas. All drainages appear stable. Plateau conducts quarterly water quality monitoring on the Price River upstream and downstream of mine runoff discharge points. In order to attain Phase II bond release, Plateau will need to demonstrate that the reclaimed areas do not contribute excess suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area. Visual assessment of the reclamation areas did not raise any concerns regarding Plateau's upcoming bond release application.

No enforcement actions were taken as a result of this inspection.

**I&E Inspection Photos**

Permit: UT-007-038      Inspection Date: 3/13/2012

Permittee: PLATEAU MINING CORP (PMC)



Notes:

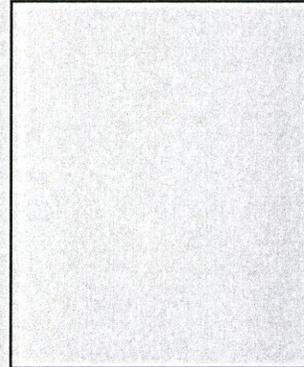


Photo ID: 6546

Photographer: SMCBELKA

Date Taken: 3/13/2012

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 0394547

Longitude: 1105359

Subject: EXCESS SPOIL FILL STABLE AND WELL VEGETATED

Mine Name: WILLOW CREEK MINE, C



Notes:

Plastic fencing is deteriorating; however, the backfill appears stable.

Photo ID: 6550  
Photographer: SMCBELKA  
Date Taken: 3/13/2012  
State: UT  
County: CARBON  
Latitude: 0394547  
Longitude: 1105359

Subject: RECLAIMED SHAFT IN CRANDALL CANYON

Mine Name: WILLOW CREEK MINE, C

**I&E Inspection Photos**

Permit: UT-007-038      Inspection Date: 3/13/2012

Permittee: PLATEAU MINING CORP (PMC)



**Notes:**

Reclaimed area vegetative cover and diversity appear higher than surrounding areas. Not concerned area is contributing TSS in excess of ambient standards at this time.

Photo ID: 6551

Photographer: SM\CBELKA

Date Taken: 3/13/2012

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 0394547

Longitude: 1105359

Subject: MINOR SEDIMENTATION BEFORE DISCHARGING OFF-SITE

Mine Name: WILLOW CREEK MINE, C



**Notes:**

Photo ID: 6552

Photographer: SM\CBELKA

Date Taken: 3/13/2012

State: UT

County: CARBON

Latitude: 0394547

Longitude: 1105359

Subject: FILL AREA DIVERSION DISCHARGE TOWARD PRIVE RIVER

Mine Name: WILLOW CREEK MINE, C