



OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Willow Creek

Cheryl Parker <cherylparker@utah.gov>

Thu, Oct 8, 2015 at 2:32 PM

To: OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>, Dennis Ware <dware@alphanr.com>

Dennis,

While I was in Price last month I ran by the Willow Creek sites. Looks like everything is okay except recent storms up Crandall canyon have again buried several of the culverts. Since we haven't gotten official response yet from OSM, the culverts will need to be cleaned out.

Just touch base with me if/when you think you'll be able to get someone scheduled up there.

Thanks and sorry about the delay getting this report to you.

Cheryl Parker, M.S., P.E.

Mine Engineer

801-538-5286

State of Utah

DNR - Division of Oil Gas & Mining

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Salt Lake City, UT 84116

**WC201509.pdf**

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Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0070038
Inspection Type:	COMPLETE
Inspection Date:	Wednesday, September 23, 2015
Start Date/Time:	9/23/2015 5:00:00 PM
End Date/Time:	9/23/2015 6:00:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Monday, August 03, 2015

Inspector: Cheryl Parker,

Weather: Cloudy, 70

InspectionID Report Number: 5310

Accepted by: JHELFRIC
9/28/2015

Permitee: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**
 Operator: **PLATEAU MINING CORP**
 Site: **WILLOW CREEK MINE**
 Address: **PO BOX 30, HELPER UT 84526-0030**
 County: **CARBON**
 Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**
 Permit Status: **INACTIVE**

Current Acreages

14,662.49	Total Permitted
95.40	Total Disturbed
187.85	Phase I
187.85	Phase II
92.45	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 Division conducted a complete inspection of Willow Creek's School House Refuse Pile, Crandal Canyon, and remaining Facilities area.

Inspector's Signature

Cheryl Parker,
Inspector ID Number: 70

Date Monday, September 23, 2015



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 REQUIREMENTS

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The current Willow Creek Mine permit renewal is due on April 24, 2016. The insurance for the mine is maintained with National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, with an expiration date of 12/13/15. The insurance includes the minimum coverage including explosives and coverage due on occurrences. Approval for Phase III Bond release would allow the permittee to reduce the bond held for the site to \$10,452. The remaining 1.19 acres in the permit was last re-disturbed in 2008 therefore Phase II cannot be applied for until 2018.

2. Signs and Markers

The Mine and Stream Buffer identification signs were inspected at all locations (School House Refuse, Rail Loadout, Gravel Canyon, remaining Facilities area, and Crandall Canyon). All signs and markers for the permit and disturbed areas will be removed upon completion of the Phase III release application.

3. Topsoil

There were no soils or erosion issues noted at any of the areas visited. Coal mine waste at the School House Refuse pile remains buried under four feet of cover. A few thistle plants were spotted on the topsoil pile located at the mouth of Crandall Canyon.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

Crandall Canyon diversion ditches were inspected along the length of the disturbed area. Several rain events have occurred since the bond release inspection that resulted in high flows through the area. Several of the culverts along the road had sediment build up on the inlet grate and were buried. The Permittee will have maintenance done on all culverts requiring attention.

The culvert at the base of the School house refuse remains open and functional at the time of the inspection. The riprap installed along the length of the channel appears stable and to be functioning as designed. All Diversion features are as expected according to the MRP's anticipated final surface configuration of the permit area

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

All sediment ponds and impoundments for the Willow Creek Mine that remained in the permit area have been adequately reclaimed. There are currently no sediment ponds or impoundments within the reclaimed area of the Willow Creek Mine.

4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

Vegetation has grown in and stabilized all reclaimed areas. No noticeable rilling or gullyng occurred since the previous inspection in June along the length of the slope at the School House Refuse Pile.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

The Permittee was released of all water monitoring requirements at the time of phase2 bond release.

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

8. Noncoal Waste

The site is reclaimed with no signs of non-coal waste materials.

10. Slides and Other Damage

No slides or subsidence were witnessed during the time of the inspection. The exposed cut slope at Gravel Canyon shows no signs of instability. The survey of the shafts up Crandall Canyon has not shown any movement the past two years; see the survey completed by fourth quarter of last year in the Willow Creek 2014 Annual Report for details.

14. Subsidence Control

The Survey of the Crandall Canyon shafts in October 15, 2014 showed no signs of movement. Both shafts appear to be stable with no signs of subsidence. The Permittee provided the survey data from Ware surveying and Engineering. No change was recorded at the any of the points at the eastern and western shaft reclamation.(CP)

16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing

Roads appeared to be in relative good maintenance along Crandall Canyon. Recent storms in the area have resulted in several lengths of road ditches pugging and flow along the length of the road, however, vegetation is present within the roadway and little damage was done to the road foundations.

16.b Roads: Drainage Controls

The ditch and culverts that remain along the length of Crandall Canyon were full of sediment due to recent rain events in the canyon. The Permittee will address the maintenance of the culverts and minor rills along the length of the canyon prior to the completion of the Phase III application.

21. Bonding and Insurance

The Permittee maintains a current surety bond o f\$10,452 to cover the reseeding of the remaining 1.189 acres up Crandal Canyon.

ATTACHMENT A – Photos



PHOTO 1
Culvert Buried
September 2015



PHOTO 2
Flow over buried culvert
September 2015



PHOTO 3
Flow down road from buried Culverts
September 2015



PHOTO 4
Buried Culvert
September 2015



PHOTO 5
Culvert Buried
September 2015



PHOTO 6
Flow over buried culvert
September 2015



PHOTO 7
Buried Culvert
September 2015



PHOTO 8
Buried Culvert
September 2015



PHOTO 9
Culvert Buried
September 2015



PHOTO 10
Flow over buried culvert
September 2015



PHOTO 11
Channel Erosion
September 2015