



**State of Utah**  
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
 DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

**INSPECTION REPORT**

*S. Ad*

Michael O. Leavitt  
 Governor  
 Lowell P. Braxton  
 Division Director

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 PO Box 145801  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801  
 801-538-5340  
 801-359-3940 (Fax)  
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Partial:      Complete: XXX Exploration:       
 Inspection Date & Time: 12/21/99 / 9:15-11:15a.m. & 2:30-4:30p.m.  
 Date of Last Inspection: 11/10/99

Mine Name: West Ridge Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/041  
 Permittee and/or Operator's Name: West Ridge Resources, Inc.  
 Business Address: P.O. Box 902, Price, Utah 84501  
 Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface      Prep. Plant      Other       
 Company Official(s): Mike Glasson  
 State Officials(s): Peter H. Hess Federal Official(s): None  
 Weather Conditions: Overcast, flurries, windy  
 Existing Acreage: Permitted- 2650.67 Disturbed- 29 Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded- 29  
 Increased/Decreased: Permitted-      Disturbed-      Regraded-      Seeded-      Bonded-       
 Status: Exploration/      Active/      Inactive/      Temporary Cessation/      Bond Forfeiture  
 Reclamation (     Phase I/      Phase II/      Final Bond Release/      Liability      Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

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 N/A.
  - b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing 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, Division Orders, and amendments.

	<u>EVALUATED</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>NOV/ENF</u>
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June) _____ (date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Continuation sheet)

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Note: Much of the site is snow covered.

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

During the November inspection, two standards were observed two-tenths of a mile below the permittee's identification sign, which designates the disturbed area perimeter boundary. When Mr. Glasson was questioned, he indicated that this gate would be installed by the permittee to protect the Mine site from vandalism and theft and to protect the public. Although this is certainly a justifiable reason to install a security gate, the location which has been chosen is approximately four hundred feet outside of the Mine's permit area and one thousand and fifty-six feet outside of the Mine's disturbed area perimeter.

When West Ridge submitted their permit application package, it was determined that the "C" Canyon road was to be a Carbon County road; hence, permitting of this road by West Ridge would not be necessary. Approximately one thousand feet of this County road was permitted up to its terminus within the Mine's disturbed area. A public turn around was to be provided at the south end of the coal truck loading loop.

The installation of the gate below the Mine's permit area is in direct contradiction to what was permitted by the Division. Numerous phone calls have occurred between UDNR/OGM officials, this inspector and Messrs. Glasson and Shaver. The UDNR/OGM has told the permittee to make preparations to permit the security gate and the County road above it to the mine site. As this is a public road, a public comment period is necessary, based on R645-300-121.150.

4b. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

A review of the final construction inspection report which was conducted by Mr. Dan Guy of Blackhawk Engineering for the two cell sediment pond (UPDES #001A) was performed. There were no problems or hazardous conditions noted during Mr. Guy's inspection or the field inspection today. This pond is capable of functioning. As indicated by Mr. Glasson and Mr. Shaver, an aerial survey has been flown of the site, from which "as-built" drawing will be generated. P.E. certification of the "as-built" condition for the two cell pond is the final step in the completion of the construction cycle of the pond.

4c. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL FACILITIES

The total containment basin which treats the runoff for the Mine office/parking lot area (ASCA Z) contained a large tool box, rock dust tubing, and heavy steel frames, all placed by various contractors at the site. It was recommended to Mr. Glasson that these obstructions be removed from the treatment facility as soon as possible. Also, it may behoove the permittee to place signs here in order to prevent a recurrence.

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### 4d. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

The third quarter water monitoring report for the site was submitted to the UDNR/OGM/SLO on November 29, 1999 by Mr. Glasson. Field monitoring for this report was conducted by Ms. Karla Knoop during the months of July, August and September.

As analyzed, the following sample points had incredibly high cation/anion balances; ST-5A, B, and C for both the August and September samples; ST-5D for the September sample; and SP-16 for the August sample. The cation/anion balance range varied from -8.2% to as high as -86.1%, which is well outside the maximum 10% error deemed acceptable. Mr. Glasson was asked to inquire of the laboratory some justification for these very high errors.

In an "E" mail received 12/27, Mr. Glasson indicated that CT&E lab in Huntington indicated that the unusual balances are due to TSS in the sample, and that bicarbonate leaches from the silt. These are naturally occurring water sources and there is nothing that West Ridge can do to change the results. This information has been forwarded to Mr. Ken Wyatt, Reclamation Hydrologist in the SLO.

The first discharge monitoring report for the dual cell sediment pond (November '99) was submitted on December 17, with no discharge being reported. The permittee does not have adequate forms from DEQ/DWQ to perform this EPA water monitoring requirement. It is not known why the DWQ has failed to forward adequate forms to the UPDES permit #UTG040000 holder.

### 9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

The current spill prevention control and countermeasure plan has adequate P.E. certification until December of 2000.

### 13. REVEGETATION

The permittee has hydroseeded much of the site, including the inside slopes of the dual cell sediment pond, and numerous cut banks.

### 14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL

As of today's inspection, the belt portal entry has been broken out at the highwall. The CM section driving the main entries will now turn around and head down dip. There has not been and will not be any secondary extraction of coal at the West Ridge Mine in 1999; hence, no subsidence will occur.

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17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

The first coal transfer tower from the ROM reclaim is hastily under construction. A crusher has been installed here to reduce +two inch material.

Iron work for the batch truck loading system is going up. The conveyor work connecting the two towers has yet to be initiated.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Mike Glasson (Andalex)

Henry Austin (OSM)

Given to: Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM)

Filed to: Price Field Office

Date: January 3, 2000

Inspector's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Peter H. Hess*  
Peter H. Hess

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