

0021



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

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Handwritten notes: OK, Phil, buy, \$10

INSPECTION REPORT

Partial XXX Complete \_\_\_ Exploration \_\_\_
Inspection Date: 06/13/2002 / Time: 8:00 - 12:00
Date of Last Inspection: 05/20/2002

Mine Name: West Ridge Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: C/007/041
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: West Ridge Resources, Inc.
Business Address: P.O. Box 1077, Price, Utah 84501
Company Official(s): Gary Gray, Karla Knoop w/JBR Consultants
State Official(s): Karl R. Houskeeper, Gregg Galecki Federal Official(s): None
Weather Conditions: Clear, Temp 90 - 95°F
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface \_\_\_ Prep Plant \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_
Existing Acreage: Permitted 4307.63 Disturbed 29.06 Regraded \_\_\_ Seeded \_\_\_
Status: Active

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 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.

Table with 5 columns: Item, EVALUATED, N/A, COMMENTS, NOV/ENF. Rows include: PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE; SIGNS AND MARKERS; TOPSOIL; HYDROLOGIC BALANCE; DIVERSIONS; SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS; OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES; WATER MONITORING; EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS; EXPLOSIVES; DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES; COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS; NONCOAL WASTE; PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES; SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE; CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION; BACKFILLING AND GRADING; REVEGETATION; SUBSIDENCE CONTROL; CESSATION OF OPERATIONS; ROADS; CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING; DRAINAGE CONTROLS; OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES; SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS; AVS CHECK (4th Quarter- April, May, June); AIR QUALITY PERMIT; BONDING & INSURANCE.

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

**2. SIGNS AND MARKERS**

The mine permit ID signs were observed during the inspection. The ID signs are located at the entrance to the pump house and the entrance to the mine site. The ID signs contained all the required information. Other signs and markers observed met the coal rules.

**4A. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS**

Re-visited several diversions that were referenced in the last complete inspection. This visit allowed the Divisions' Hydrologist to view the recent construction and maintenance efforts that the operator performed on the diversions. All of the diversions remain in good condition.

**4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS**

Elevations for the lower cell sediment levels still need to be calculated. Once the elevations are established the sediment markers need to be installed. The operator is encouraged to make the necessary calculations and installation of the markers as soon as possible. The sediment markers in the ponds tie to the midterm review and commitments by the operator.

**4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING**

An annual joint inspector/hydrologist site visit was conducted during this inspection. Ms. Karla Knoop was present since she conducts the mines' water monitoring. One topic discussed included data submitted into the Division water-monitoring database. Per Ms. Knoops' suggestion, the number of characters in the comment line will be increased from 50 characters to 200 characters. The comment line will also be included in future output files.

First quarter monitoring sites that had 'No Access' were incorrectly input into the database as 'No Flow' sites and will be corrected prior to final submittal. Surface water monitoring sites that have crest gauges installed were previously documented only with depth in the comment line. This will be changed to include an estimated flow range based on the measurements of the crest gauge and field observations. Ms. Knoop also committed to reviewing past crest gauge data documented in the comment line and provide an estimated flow range.

Ms. Knoop will also check with JBR personnel conducting the sampling of monitoring well DH86-2 to get an accurate measurement of the elevation change from when the surface casing was lowered.

A second fervent discussion involved 'No Access' sites. A cursory review of the data submitted to the Division since 1997 indicated access to water monitoring sites during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter was achieved 93 percent of the time. However, access to the water monitoring sites during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter was achieved only 13 percent of the time (6 of 48 time, respectively). It was discussed that the Division is going to have a more stringent enforcement of not readily accepting 'No Access' as a viable water monitoring parameter. Gregg Galecki (hydrologist) suggested amending the monitoring plan to omit sampling sites in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter that have not been sampled since 1997 (have never been sampled in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter).

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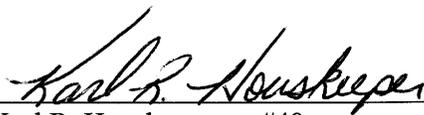
DATE OF INSPECTION: 06/13/2002

Mr. Gray suggested West Ridge Resources attempted to submit a monitoring plan that did not monitor in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, but was rejected by the Division. Mr. Galecki suggested the regulations enable a modification to quarterly sampling if the operator demonstrates a reduction is warranted. Both Mr. Gray and Ms. Knoop were adamant that the monitoring plan could not address every contingency possible to eliminate all 'No Access' occurrences. Mr. Gray will likely submit an amendment to West Ridge Mine monitoring plan to reduce sampling in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

The noncoal waste at the mine site was contained in the designated area.

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

  
Karl R. Houskeeper #49

Date: June 21, 2002

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

cc: James Fulton, OSM  
Gary Gray, West Ridge  
Price Field office

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