



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
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Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

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Lieutenant Governor

Table with 2 columns: Role, Name. Row 1: OGM, Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III. Row 2: Company, Gary E. Gray, Resident Agent.

Inspection Report

Table with 2 columns: Field, Value. Fields include Permit Number (C0070041), Inspection Type (COMPLETE), Inspection Date (Thursday, January 12, 2006), Start Date/Time (1/12/2006 8:23:00 AM), End Date/Time (1/12/2006 10:38:00 AM), Last Inspection (Wednesday, December 14, 2005).

Inspector: Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III

Weather: Clear, windy, cold, 30's F.

InspectionID Report Number: 837

Accepted by: whedberg
2/1/2006

Permittee: WEST RIDGE RESOURCES
Operator: WEST RIDGE RESOURCES
Site: WEST RIDGE MINE
Address: PO BOX 1077, PRICE UT 84501
County: CARBON
Permit Type: PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM
Permit Status: ACTIVE

Current Acreages

Table with 2 columns: Value, Description. Values: 4,382.55 (Total Permitted), 29.06 (Total Disturbed), Phase I, Phase II, Phase III.

Mineral Ownership

- Checked: Federal, State. Unchecked: County, Fee, Other.

Types of Operations

- Checked: Underground. Unchecked: Surface, Loadout, Processing, Reprocessing.

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

The current State permit for the West Ridge Mine contains four Special Permit Conditions which have been listed in Attachment "A"; these are as follows; the experimental practice relative to "in-place" topsoil storage; 2) submittal of water monitoring information in an electronic form to the DOGM EDI; 3) requirement to conduct Mexican spotted owl surveys in areas of 40 percent slopes, riparian habitats, etc., prior to increases in disturbance; 4) Permittee must meet all requirements of the West Ridge highwall reclamation plan upon approval. Secondary coal extraction in Panel #7 was initiated in December of 2005. As of the date of this report, the longwall face is within approximately 800 horizontal feet of the Grassy Trail Dam. The Permittee is submitting all weekly monitoring requirements according to Appendix 5-9 of the MRP. This includes seismic monitoring in the area. As of 1/10/2006, no earthquakes of magnitude 3.0 have occurred within a five mile radius of the dam. Most of the site is snow covered.

Inspector's Signature:

Date Thursday, January 12, 2006

Pete Hess, Environmental Scientist III
Inspector ID Number: 46

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

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 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 Issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: 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 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	<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 and Insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The current State permit issued by the Utah DOGM remains in effect until April 1, 2009. The permit was renewed in September of 2005. The current UPDES permit remains in effect until April 30, 2008.

2. Signs and Markers

All signs were maintained as required. The only issue noted relative to signs was that the stream buffer zone sign located on the SW end of the Mine site disturbed area (just below the outlet of the undisturbed bypass culvert UC-OO (See Map 7-2, Mine Site Drainage Map) was installed next to the channel flow, and not a distance away from the channel (up to 100 feet, maximum). The appropriate regulatory references relative to this are R645-301-521.261, and 731.610. The Carbon County road accessing the site is within the 100 foot zone measured from the center of the "C" Canyon drainage. Therefore, the sign should be moved away from the channel to the extent possible, such that this riparian area is clearly marked and protected. Mr. Gray made note of the need to move this sign such that the maximum amount of riparian area allowable is protected. No mining activities will ever occur within this riparian area.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

All of the site's diversions appeared to be capable of functioning as designed. Although the site was under a small amount of snow cover, there were no diversions blocked with snow accumulation. A machine tire was observed in the ditch designated as DD-1 on the upper storage pad (SW of water tank). Mr. Gray made note of this in order to have the tire removed.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

The fourth quarter impoundment inspection for the dual cell sediment pond was conducted by Mr. Gray on December 15, 2005. There were no indications of structural weakness or other hazards associated with the pond. The upper cell contained water this day, some of which was frozen. There were no compliance issues noted relative to the pond this day.

4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures

There are several silt fences located in the flowing channel down gradient of the Mine site disturbed area. Mr. Gray indicated that these fences were probably installed during the construction phase of the site. It was suggested that the fences be removed in the spring when ground temperatures have warmed allowing easier extraction.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

The Permittee submitted the third quarter surface and ground water monitoring information to the DOGM web site on December 19, 2005, meeting the Special Permit Condition included as Attachment "A" within the current State permit. Water was flowing in the "C" Canyon channel below the Mine site disturbed area.

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

The Permittee's water monitoring files contained a letter from the Utah Division of Water Quality indicating that DWQ had sampled the mine water discharge from UPDES outfall 002A on September 1, 2005, and that the sample indicated an exceedance of the TDS level permitted for discharge. It may be necessary for this Permittee to purchase salt credits similar in fashion to the way the same problem has been addressed by the CFC Dugout Mine. Both UPDES outfalls (001A, Sediment pond to "C" Canyon drainage, and 002A, mine water discharge to the undisturbed bypass culvert UC-GG, near Main Fan installation) were observed this day. The Mine was discharging ground water. No compliance issues were noted.

9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues

The current Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan was last reviewed, and certified by Mr. John Lewis, Utah registered professional engineer on September 20, 2004. Thus, the plan is current until September 2007.

14. Subsidence Control

The Permittee initiated secondary coal extraction in Panel #7 in early December of 2005. The Permittee submits weekly monitoring reports to the Utah Division of Dam Safety / State Engineer's Office as well as the DOGM which contains the following information; location of longwall face relative to the right abutment of the Grassy Trail Dam, seepage readings from the three seeps associated with the dam, as well as photos of the dam face, dam crest, east and west slide areas, etc. (8 photos total). Seismic activity in the area is also monitored by the Permittee. According to the Rollins, Brown and Gunnell recommendations, earthquake activity within five miles of the dam should be monitored, and the largest event recorded. This information is obtained through the University of Utah Seismograph Station. Quake activity is also being monitored in the Price DOGM Field Office. Based on the RB&G recommendations, if a quake of magnitude >3.0 occurs within five miles of the dam, a site reconnaissance of the dam crest, slopes, and landslide areas should be performed within 24 hours including a review of the ground motion recordings. Two seismographs are installed in the area. One monitor is installed in the impounding embankment; the second seismograph is installed 900 upslope of the right dam abutment. The RB&G requirements also indicate that if recorded ground acceleration from the seismographs indicates a ground acceleration of 0.4 g's, then instrumentation readings should be performed. From January 12, 2006 through January 17, 2006, four earthquakes have occurred near East Carbon / Sunnyside, Utah. All quakes were measured to be 1.4 or 1.5 magnitude. As of January 17, 2006, the NE corner of the #7 Panel longwall face is approximately 690 feet from the toe of the right dam abutment. Appendix 5-11, Grassy Trail Dam Seismicity Report and Appendix 5-12, Grassy Trail Dam, Phase II Safety Report have been incorporated into the West Ridge Mine mining and reclamation plan. At the current rate of retreat, the Division anticipates that the longwall face will be directly across from the toe of the dam on or about February 8, 2006.

21. Bonding and Insurance

A reclamation bond in the amount of \$2,117,000 exists for the West Ridge site. The current reclamation agreement was last updated in March of 1999. The general liability insurance for the site remains in effect until July 1, 2006.