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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

Outgoing  
C0070041  
a

March 12, 2009

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT  
7004 2510 0004 1824 9641

Dave Shaver  
West Ridge Resources, Inc.  
P. O. Box 910  
East Carbon, Utah 84520-0910

Subject: Proposed Assessment for State Violation No. 10033, Utah American Energy Inc., C/007/0041, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Shaver:

The undersigned has been appointed by the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R645-401.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above referenced violation. The violation was issued by Division Inspector, Steve Demczak, on January 29, 2009. Rule R645-401-600 et. seq. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty. By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Notice of Violation has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty.

Under R645-401-700, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

1. If you wish to informally appeal the fact of this violation, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.

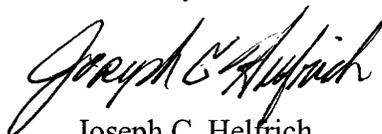


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Mr. Dave Shaver  
March 12, 2009

2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph 1, the Assessment Conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

**If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of violation will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the proposed assessment.** Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Suzanne Steab.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Helfrich  
Assessment Officer

Enclosure

cc: OSM Compliance Report  
Vicki Bailey, DOGM  
Suzanne Steab, DOGM  
Price Field Office

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Sent To	Dave Shaver
Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No.	PO Box 910
City, State, ZIP+4	East Carbon UT 84520-0910

**WORKSHEET FOR ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING**

COMPANY / MINE West Ridge Resources, Inc. / West Ridge Mine

PERMIT C/007/0041 NOV / CO # 10033 VIOLATION 1 of 1

ASSESSMENT DATE March 12, 2009

ASSESSMENT OFFICER Joe Helfrich

**I. HISTORY (Max. 25 pts.)**

A. Are there previous violations, which are not pending or vacated, which fall one (1) year of today's date?

PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS	EFFECTIVE DATE	POINTS
<u>N10025</u>	<u>September 27, 2008</u>	<u>1</u>

1 point for each past violation, up to one (1) year  
5 points for each past violation in a CO, up to one (1) year  
No pending notices shall be counted

**TOTAL HISTORY POINTS 1**

**II. SERIOUSNESS (Either A or B)**

NOTE: For assignment of points in Parts II and III, the following apply:

1. Based on facts supplied by the inspector, the Assessment Officer will determine within each category where the violation falls.
2. Beginning at the mid-point of the category, the Assessment Officer will adjust the points up or down, utilizing the inspector's and operator's statements as guiding documents.

Is this an EVENT (A) or HINDRANCE (B) violation? Event

A. EVENT VIOLATION (Max 45 pts.)

1. What is the event which the violated standard was designed to prevent?

*Off site deposition of suspended solids and hydrocarbons, water pollution and activity outside the permit area.*

2. What is the probability of the occurrence of the event which a violated standard was designed to prevent?

<u>PROBABILITY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>
None	0
Unlikely	1-9
Likely	10-19
Occurred	20

**ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS** 20

**PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:**

**\*\*\*According to the information provided in the inspector statement the events occurred.**

3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage? RANGE 0-25

In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

**ASSIGN DAMAGE POINTS** 25

**PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:**

**\*\*\* According to the information provided in the inspector statement the occurrence of the damage was noticed by the inspector on January 29, 2009 and samples taken on March 3, 2009 indicated that the effluent limitations were being met, no information is available at this time regarding compliance with Ph, iron, oil and grease or manganese. The majority of the sediment and hydrocarbons were deposited along a 2.5 mile stretch of the ephemeral drainage with evidence of coal fines at approximately 4 miles down stream.**

B. HINDRANCE VIOLATION (Max 25 pts.)

1. Is this a POTENTIAL or ACTUAL hindrance to enforcement? \_\_\_\_\_  
RANGE 0-25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

**ASSIGN HINDRANCE POINTS** 0

**PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:**

**\*\*\***

**TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS ( A or B )** 45

**III. NEGLIGENCE (Max 30 pts.)**

- A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? IF SO--NO NEGLIGENCE; or, was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, or the failure to abate any violation due to the same? IF SO--GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.

No Negligence	0
Negligence	1-15
Greater Degree of Fault	16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 15**

**PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:**

***\*\*\*There was a lack of reasonable care with respect to the manner in which the mine water was being treated prior to being discharged into the ephemeral drainage.***

**IV. GOOD FAITH (Max 20 pts.)**

(Either A or B)

(Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures)

- A. Did the operator have onsite, the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?  
IF SO--EASY ABATEMENT

Easy Abatement Situation

- Immediate Compliance -11 to -20\*  
(Immediately following the issuance of the NOV)
- Rapid Compliance -1 to -10  
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance 0  
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)  
(Operator complied with condition and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

\*Assign in upper of lower half of range depending on abatement occurring the 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.

B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance, or does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

IF SO--DIFFICULT ABATEMENT

Difficult Abatement Situation

- Rapid Compliance -11 to -20\*  
(Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance -1 to -10\*  
(Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- Extended Compliance 0  
(Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard of the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)  
(Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? \_\_\_\_\_

ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS 0

**PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:**

*\*\*\*To be evaluated upon termination of the violation.*

V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

NOTICE OF VIOLATION # N 10033

I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	<u>1</u>
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	<u>45</u>
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	<u>15</u>
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS	<u>0</u>
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	<u>61</u>

**TOTAL ASSESSED FINE** \$ 4,510