

OGMCOAL - Fwd: West Ridge Inspection Report #3171 (July 18th, 2012)

From: Steve Christensen
To: jnewman@coalsource
Date: 8/28/2012 3:04 PM
Subject: Fwd: West Ridge Inspection Report #3171 (July 18th, 2012)
CC: Ingrid Campbell; JD Leonard; James Owen; OGMCOAL; jmarshall@coalsour...
Attachments: West Ridge07182012.pdf

Hi James,

I have yet to receive the information that we requested during our July 18th site visit (See attached). Could you please contact me or James Owen and let us know what the status is?

Thanks,
Steve

Steve Christensen
Environmental Scientist III
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
(801) 538-5350

>>> James Owen 7/26/2012 3:32 PM >>>
James,

Attached is the official report from the inspection that Steve Christensen and I conducted on July 18 at West Ridge. Please review the inspection report as it outlines the Division's observations as well as describes some additional information that DOGM is waiting on, namely:

- The date that flow meter U-17E was installed
- The amount of flow that the meter has recorded thus far
- The approximate time at which the flow meter needs to be replaced (per manufacturers recommendations)

Please contact Steve via phone (801-536-5350) or email and provide this information as soon as possible.

Thanks,

James C. Owen
Reclamation Engineer
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 W. North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801.538.5306



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:	C0070041
Inspection Type:	PARTIAL
Inspection Date:	Wednesday, July 18, 2012
Start Date/Time:	7/18/2012 10:00:00 AM
End Date/Time:	7/18/2012 2:30:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Monday, June 25, 2012

Representatives Present During the Inspection:	
OGM	Steve Christensen
OGM	James Owen

Inspector: Steve Christensen

Weather: Winds: 0-5 mph, Sunny, 90 degrees F.

InspectionID Report Number: 3171

Accepted by: jhelfric

7/25/2012

Permitee: **WEST RIDGE RESOURCES**
 Operator: **WEST RIDGE RESOURCES**
 Site: **WEST RIDGE MINE**
 Address: **PO BOX 910, EAST CARBON UT 84520-0910**
 County: **CARBON**
 Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**
 Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

7,600.38	Total Permitted
31.24	Total Disturbed
	Phase I
	Phase II
	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:

On July 18th, 2012, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (the Division) conducted a field-inspection at the West Ridge Mining facility. The primary purpose of the inspection was to verify the installation and function of the underground flow meters located in the gate roads of long wall Panels #20, #21 and #22. Mr. James Newman (West Ridge Engineer) took Division staff to the two installed flow meters within the mine. The flow meters were functioning and obtaining flow measurements. A connection pipe between flow meter U-15E and it's associated sump area was observed to be leaking. Mr. Newman contacted underground maintenance personnel while the Division staff were present and arranged for the pipe to be repaired. Based upon 8 hour shift inspections, Mr. Newman indicated that the leak must have developed very recently. Subsequent field inspections will verify that the connection has been properly repaired.

Inspector's Signature:

Steve Christensen,
Inspector ID Number: 54

Date

Monday, July 23, 2012



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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

As part of the approval of longwall panels #20, #21 and #22, the Permittee committed to installing flow meters in the gate roads for each panel. The flow meters were to be installed in order to measure the amount of water encountered in the mine within the vicinity of the Right Fork of Whitmore Canyon drainage. The flow meters were to be installed in the sumps where the gate-roads connect to the main entries and where the mine-water is collected and pumped into the main discharge waterline. The commitment is found on page 7-51 of the West Ridge Mining and Reclamation Plan as well as in Appendix 7-16, Underground Flow Meters Vicinity of Right Fork, Whitmore Canyon.

Additionally, the Permittee committed to initiating a hydro-geologic investigation and subsequent probable hydrologic consequences (PHC) revision in the event that the flow from these meters exceeds 250 gallons per minute (approximately 0.5 cubic feet per second, cfs) for a period of more than one month.

Upon inspecting the underground mine works, Division staff verified that two flow meters had been installed (U-15E and U-17E). U-15E was installed in the lower gate road for Panel #20 on April 15th, 2012. Flow meter U-17E was installed on the lower gate road of panel #21 within the last week (Mr. Newman was unable to verify the exact date of installation). The meters are not electronic, but rather obtain flow readings based on a spinning wheel configuration. The units are total gallons. Based on that reading, a back calculation can be performed (based on the previous total gallon reading on the meter) to obtain a flow (i.e. cfs).

Based on discussions with mine-site engineer Mr. James Newman, only one flow meter was necessary for Panel #20 due to the dip of the coal seam. The flow meter was installed on the down-dip gate road because water was not encountered or accumulating in the up-dip gate road sections. The same conditions were encountered in the development of Panel #21.

Mr. Newman indicated that the water encountered in Panel #20 came in from the roof. During the development of the mains between Panel #21 and #22, water was encountered seeping in from the floor. Additionally, during the development of Panel #21 and #22, a significant volume of hydrogen sulfide gas (H₂S) was encountered as well as very warm water seeping in from the floor when development mining hit a fault line. As a result, Mr. Newman further indicated that due to unfavorable conditions, Panel #22 will not be mined as previously planned.

The current reading obtained from flow meter U-15E was 0.61 cubic feet per second (cfs). The previous readings for April and May were 0.1025 cfs and 0.408 cfs respectively. If a value higher than 0.50 cfs is obtained for the month of August, the aforementioned permit conditions/commitments will be re-visited.

After the mining of Panel #21, Mr. Newman indicated that the mine plan is to seal off the mains and fill the area of Panels #20, #21 with water.

During the site inspection, it was discovered that a connection pipe between the sump area and the flow meter line was leaking significantly at flow meter U-15E. Mr. Newman indicated that based on recent MSHA inspections (w/in 24 hours) as well as 8-hour shift inspections, the pipe leak must have developed very recently. Mr. Newman contacted the underground maintenance personnel and arranged for the pipe to be repaired.

The reading obtained at flow meter U-17E was 154,400 total gallons at the time of the inspection. Mr. Newman indicated that he would provide the Division with the date that flow meter U-17E was installed, the amount flow that the meter has recorded thus far as well as the approximate time at which the flow meter needs to be replaced (per manufacturer's recommendations).

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

An inspection of the C Canyon drainage located at the outlet of Outfall 002 was also inspected. Signs of coal fine accumulation (sludge) were not observed during the time of the inspection. The water appeared clear with no signs of excessive sedimentation or suspended solids.