



0012
STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Act/1015/002
Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

August 20, 1987

Mr. Charles Williams
Western States Minerals Corporation
4975 Van Gordon Street
Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033

Dear Mr. Williams:

Re: Response to Permanent Program Status of J. B. King, and
Request for Annual Subsidence Survey

Attached are two memos providing clarification on the above noted issues.

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig's memo on the applicable regulations for the J. B. King Mine should clear up any confusion on the permanent program status of the mine.

Additionally, the memo from Rick Smith and Kathy Mutz outlines concerns on vegetation and subsidence monitoring.

Please forward the 1986 Annual Report for the J. B. King Mine and include the results of the subsidence survey and visual inspection of reclaimed areas along with woody plant densities for 1986.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions on these matters.

Sincerely,

John J. Whitehead
Permit Supervisor/
Reclamation Hydrologist

djh
Attachments
cc: P. Grubaugh-Littig
R. Smith
H. Sandbeck
J. Helfrich

0800R/51

August 11, 1987

TO: Coal File

FROM: Richard V. Smith, Geologist *RVS*
Kathryn M. Mutz, Reclamation Biologist *KMM*

RE: Reclamation Commitments and Annual Submittals, Western States Minerals, J. B. King Mine, ACT/015/002, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

The approved Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP) for the J. B. King Mine incorporates commitments to conduct an annual subsidence survey and submit results to the Division. These data have not been submitted to the Division. In addition, the operator has committed to erect fencing and posting warning signs where subsidence crack infilling has not been successful.

The MRP also includes commitments to:

1. An annual visual inspection of reclaimed areas;
2. Sampling woody plant density during the 1986, 1988 and 1990 growing seasons;
3. Sampling vegetative cover during the 1988 and 1990 growing seasons; and
4. Providing the Division with an SCS range assessment of the reference area every three years, starting with the first year of liability period. The first assessment will be due in 1988.

It appears that the operator is not in compliance with regard to submitting annual subsidence survey results.

Moreover, we recommend that the operator include in the 1986 annual report, results of the visual inspection of reclaimed areas and woody plant density sampling for 1986.

Future annual reports should include not only results of subsidence surveys, but other vegetative information for the time periods indicated above.

djh
cc: J. Whitehead
9206R/21



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

August 11, 1987

TO: John Whitehead, Permit Supervisor
FROM: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Reclamation Engineer *pgl*
RE: Permanent Program Status of the J. B. King Mine,
Western States Minerals Corporation, J. B. King
Mine, ACT/015/002, Emery County, Utah

Pursuant to your request to determine the program status of the J. B. King Mine, I have attached a Memo to File from Sandy Pruitt, dated December 8, 1982. This memo outlines the permit history of the J. B. King Mine. Notably, a suspension of operations was dated May 8, 1981, which is after the effective date of the Utah permanent program (January 21, 1981). Therefore, the J. B. King Mine is correctly designated for a permanent program permit.

The J. B. King Mine received a permanent program reclamation permit on August 13, 1985. Accordingly, the bond will be released according to the permanent program rules.

djh
Attachment
9075R/48

80 DEC RECD

December 8, 1982

Inspection Memo
to Coal File

RE: J.B. King Mine
Western States Mineral Corporation
ACT/015/002
Emery County, Utah

A partial inspection of the J.B. King mine was conducted late, November 22, 1982 by Jodie Merriman, OSM and Sandy Pruitt, of the Division. By chance, Mr. Chris Peterson was still available on site. The purpose of the inspection was to introduce Ms. Merriman to the minesite and to check on compliance work requested during the last inspection.

The cross culvert that drains the refuse area was cleaned from either end. The gully above the outlet was filled in with rock and fill. The roadside ditch that drains a portion of the mine yard was also filled in so that there was no direct conveyance to the sediment pond. It was requested that the ditch be re-established through the rock fill so runoff would flow to the pond. The erosion problem would be minimized with the rock lining. This work should be completed prior to the next monthly inspection.

Ms. Merriman asked to look at the blind mine permit, but Mr. Peterson didn't know where it was located. By examination of office files, the following permit history has been determined. An inspection conducted by DOGM on October 28, 1975, determined that Western States Coal Company had recommenced mining activities at the Dog Valley Mine. A notice of intent and reclamation plan were received by DOGM on February 19, 1976 and final approval granted under the State Mined Land Reclamation Act on April 12, 1976. The notice of intent was amended August 23, 1976 to notify DOGM of a transfer of company ownership. A reclamation bond of \$25,000 was accepted by the State Land Board on August 30, 1976. No mining was conducted in 1978. Tentative approval of mine operation under the interim coal program was granted on May 11, 1978 based on the mine reclamation plans approved under the State Act. The mine reclamation plan was amended again on March 8, 1979 for compliance with interim program requirements. A notice of intent was submitted on December 20, 1979 for recommencement of mine operations. The mine reclamation plan was updated with plans submitted on February 12, 1980 for the refuse pile improvements, three new mine entries, and new runoff control structures (a dike and three foot deep ditch around the refuse area). Face-up work and development of the three new portals and relocation of the topsoil stockpile were approved on May 2, 1980. The February 12, 1980 plans were approved on October 15, 1980. Number one of two stipulations required the submittal of a stability report (which has not been received yet). Water monitoring plans submitted in the mine reclamation plan received March 6, 1979 were deemed adequate by DOGM on April 12, 1979. A notice of suspension of mine operations on May 8, 1981 is dated June 19, 1981. These mining plans and approvals should be made available for inspection at the mine office. It is also recommended that a copy of the mine reclamation plan submitted March 21, 1981 be made available also.

In addition, the following permits should be available:

1. The new NPDES permit #UT-0023515 should be made available. The approved water monitoring plan states that no ground water was located in fifty exploration drill holes to a depth ranging from 300 to 400 feet deep (below the lowest coal seam) so no ground water will be monitored. The ephemeral drainage adjacent to the mineyard will not be monitored also. According to the approved water monitoring plan, only pond discharges are to be monitored. Therefore, copies of NPDES permits should be available onsite for inspection of water monitoring data.
2. MSHA certification for the refuse disposal fill (#1211-UT-9-0020) should be available in the mine file.
3. The Utah State Special Use lease agreement for sixty acres for the mine surface facilities and 440 acres of coal leases should be available.
4. Water rights certificates for the .115 sec. ft. of well water used for mining coal processing and the bath house should also be available.

The following material needs to be submitted to DOGM.

1. The refuse pile stability report that was to be completed February 29, 1980 must be submitted for compliance with stipulation #1 of 2 of the refuse disposal approval letter dated October 15, 1980 and UMC 771.19.
2. UMC 817.97(c) requires that the operator ensure that all power lines used for the mine facility are designed to prevent raptor electrocution. The poles need to be designed in accordance with the REA bulletin 61-10. A survey of the power lines can be requested from DOGM and the Fish and Wildlife Service for determination of the raptor hazard.
3. Retreat mining commenced in the summer of 1979. There is approximately 125 feet overburden above the I seam currently mined. No subsidence has been reported yet. An aerial survey of the lease area was to have been conducted in the fall of 1981. Permanent survey monuments would be posted for annual surveys. The survey results and a map of the survey monuments should be submitted to DOGM if available.

Accessibility to these permits and monitoring records is required by UMC 842.13 (a)(2).

SANDY PRUITT
FIELD SPECIALIST

SP/tck

cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM
Don Nelson, S.J. Groves

Statistics: