



BLACKHAWK ENGINEERING, CO.

Rt. 1, Box 146-H5 - Helper, Utah 84526 - Telephone (801) 637-2422

January 20, 1993

ACT1015/004

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor
Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 3350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

(Attention: Susan White)

Re: Updated Plates for M.R.P.
Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine
INA/015/004
Emery County, Utah

Dear Ms. Littig:

Enclosed are 4 copies each of updated Plates 3-8 and 3-9 for the Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine Permit. These maps reflect the new channel alignment, basin and rip-rap locations for the middle and lower pads. The work was completed in 1992 to repair erosion from previous storms, and to prevent future runoff problems.

The maps should replace those in the permit. Additional copies will be sent at your request. If you have any questions, or need any further information, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Dan W. Guy
President

cc: Kathy Welt
File

RECEIVED

FEB 02 1993

DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

3/19/92

Gullying -

Monitored - active gullies -

Bond continues

But would prefer to fix.

- Repair small rills

- Remove gabions

- Place monitoring device in big gullies

Rock Work / Adjacent - Compare

Ground Truthed by Division

April - Jesse

May 1st



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340

December 27, 1991

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor
FROM: Susan White, Reclamation Biologist *S. White*
RE: NOV #N91-35-5-1 Abatement, Mountain Coal Company, Huntington #4 Mine, ACT/015/004, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

SYNOPSIS

Notice of Violation #N91-35-5-1, dated November 4, 1991, was issued for failure to minimize erosion on the slopes off the upper road, bench, and lower pad drainage. Abatement of the violation required:

- 1) Submit a plan and implementation schedule to control erosion, and
- 2) Correct the postmining topography maps to show correct topography.

Abatement is due January 3, 1992.

ANALYSIS

The Division received the maps and plans for the abatement measures on December 23, 1991. The operator stated that due to weather conditions a re-survey of the site was not possible; therefore, maps were corrected using information available. The site was accessible, at least up to November 20, 1991, when an inspection was conducted. Hugh Klein, Division Hydrologist, is scheduled to perform an inspection of the site in early January 1992, and will advise me of site conditions at that time. Site conditions permitting, Mr. Klein will also field verify the submitted maps during the inspection.

Page 2
Memo/PGL
ACT/015/004
December 27, 1991

The Operator proposed installing a series of small rock gabions in the gullies to prevent erosion. This plan was reviewed with Hugh Klein and Ken Wyatt, Division Hydrologists. Mr. Klein and Mr. Wyatt both stated that:

- 1) Insufficient information was detailed on Plate APP-10 to determine the adequacy of the gabions;
- 2) Gabions are structures and, therefore, not appropriate for use on a reclaimed site; and
- 3) Due to the steepness of the slope, the long-term stability of the gabions was in question.

Gabions are probably not suitable for the drainage channel on the lower pad. The plan was not clear if gabions were to be installed in this drainage.

Since all of the gullies are not going to be filled and regraded, as discussed on site, a monitoring program should be instigated as part of the abatement for the violation. Monitoring of existing gullies will be the only way to determine stability, erosion control, and subsequently bond release.

RECOMMENDATION

The abatement date should be extended to allow a meeting with the operator at Division offices. The meeting should discuss erosion control on previously mined steep slopes, bond release, and meeting SMCRA requirements and a monitoring program.

The abatement deadline for the post-mining topography maps may need to be extended beyond the 90 days due to weather conditions. I cannot terminate the map portion of the violation without field inspection.

mbm/jbe
cc: K. Wyatt
H. Klein
AT015004.NOV



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801-538-5340

December 27, 1991

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Susan V

RE: NOV #1
Mine, A

Pam,
6 Jan 1992
We need to talk about
this memo.

SYNOPSIS

Notice of
failure to minimize erosion
drainage. Abatement

Hugh

- 1) Submit
- 2) Correct

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December 27, 1991

TO: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Susan White, Reclamation Biologist *Dee C. Hansen*

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January 23, 1992

GHOST LETTER

Dan Guy, Manager
Mountain Coal Co.
P.O. Box 1378
Price, UT 84501

Dear Dan:

RE: Water Monitoring Station, Mill Creek, Mountain Coal Co.,
Huntington #4 Mine, ACT/O15/004

I am writing you about the water monitoring station in Mill Creek that is currently part of your mining and reclamation plan on the Huntington #4 Mine. At the inspection this summer the matter of reclamation of this water monitoring site was discussed. Of concern was the general void of long term stream and runoff information. Further, what steps might be taken, if others were interested in maintaining the station, in order to gather such information.

Bill Malencik of my staff contacted Walt Nowak, USFS and reported the following:

1. The USFS does not have funds to maintain such a station.
2. The Huntington water district may be interested in maintaining the station in order to gather hydrologic information.
3. USGS may be interested in maintaining the station in conjunction with their water resources program.

It appears that on the basis 2 and 3 above, there is a possibility that others may be interested in taking over the responsibility for the station after Mountain Coal Co. final bond release. At that time two options exist:

1. No others would be interested in maintaining the station. Therefore, before final bond release the station would be reclaimed. The SLUP would no longer be in force after reclamation and approvals.
2. Others would be interested in the station. The USFS would issue a SLUP to the new entity. This assumes Mountain Coal Co. would be amenable to transferring the station to others in lieu of reclaiming this water monitoring site. Therefore, if such details could be arranged among all responsible parties, Mountain Coal would not have to reclaim the site.

Such a decision by its very nature will not come about until action is initiated by Mountain Coal Co. on final bond release. Such an action is several years away. Therefore, when final bond release is requested, the Division will work with Mountain Coal Co., USFS, and others to determine if someone would be interested in taking over the water monitoring station.

Sincerely yours,

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

cc: Mitch Rollings, OSM
Walt Nowak, USFS

wlg



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Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor

cc: Mitch Rollings, OSM
Walt Nowak, USFS

wlg

Mountain Coal Company

Trail Mountain Mine
Post Office Box 1378
Price, Utah 84501
Telephone 801 637-5050 (Price Office)
801 637-5203 (Mine Office)
801 748-2140 (Mine Site)



*Received
December 23, 1991*

December 19, 1991

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor
Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Re: N.O.V. 91-35-05-01 Abatement
Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine
INA/015/004
Emery County, Utah

Dear Ms. Littig:

Enclosed are three copies each of revised maps required for part 2 of the above referenced N.O.V. abatement. It should be noted that due to weather conditions, it hasn't been possible to perform an extensive re-survey of the minesite; therefore, these maps represent the best "As-Constructed" configuration I could come up with using information available at this time.

Part 1 of the abatement requires a plan and schedule to control erosion on the outslopes. This plan and schedule is enclosed as a new Appendix 10. As indicated in the schedule, it won't be possible to implement the controls until Spring of 1992.

All maps and plans should replace corresponding numbers or be added to the plan as indicated. If you need more copies, or have any questions, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Dan W. Guy
Manager Permitting/Compliance

cc: Dave Arnolds
Johnny Coffey
Rick Parkins
File

Mountain Coal Company

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*I'll let you
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Susan*

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APPENDIX 10
PLAN TO CONTROL
OUTSLOPE EROSION
at
HUNTINGTON CANYON NO. 4 MINE

12/19/91

Plan to Control
Outslope Erosion

at

Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine

Scope

A small number of areas along the upper reclaimed road and pad, and one on the lower pad area, exhibited an increase in erosion due to heavy rain in the fall over the past two years. The most significant erosion is on the main channel on the outslope below the reclaimed upper pad. The erosion is occurring within downcast fill from the original construction that couldn't be recovered on the steep slope. While this area will likely stabilize over a long period of time, it is felt that the installation of permanent controls will prevent further downcutting and movement of the loose material. This will also allow time for vegetation to become better established for long term stability.

Control Plan

In 1980, a similar type of sideslope erosion channel developed off the undisturbed area east of the old material storage area on the upper pad. A series of small rock gabions were installed with roof bolts and wire fencing to try and prevent further erosion. A check of this site in the fall of 1991 showed the area to be stable and well vegetated, although it still carries runoff from the undisturbed area.

It is proposed to install similar rock gabion structures in those areas that are presently exhibiting active erosion below the reclaimed sites. The proposed structures will be similar to those described above; however, they will be constructed of much heavier material - steel fence posts and chain link. The spacing of the structures will vary depending on slope; however, they will be placed so each structure flows into the next until bedrock or other stable area is reached.

Only significant channels will be stabilized in this manner. These are channels greater than 12" wide and 9" deep, and which cannot be easily repaired by hand or otherwise prevented from being further

December 19, 1991

Page Two

eroded.

A small number of similar structures were installed in the fall of 1990, and all but one have subsequently failed; however, it is felt the failure resulted from the fact that they were too widely spaced and had no overflows, allowing water to cut around the structures. The proposed plan eliminates both of these problems.

The design for the proposed gabions is shown on the enclosed map, Plate APP-10.

Schedule

Due to winter conditions, high elevation and inaccessibility of the site, it is proposed to implement this work in the Spring of 1992, as soon as weather allows, but not later than May 15, 1992, with completion by June 15, 1992.

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APPENDIX 10
PLAN TO CONTROL
OUTSLOPE EROSION
at
HUNTINGTON CANYON NO. 4 MINE

12/19/91

**Plan to Control
Outslope Erosion
at
Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine**

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