

0006



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Ted Stewart
Executive Director
James W. Carter
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-7223 (TDD)

June 9, 1997

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DQH*

FROM: Jess Kelley, Reclamation Specialist *JK*

RE: 1996 Annual Report, Mountain Coal Company, Huntington #4 Mine, ACT/015/004, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

SUMMARY:

The permittee submitted the 1996 Annual Report for Division approval on May 2, 1997.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

This writer examined only the subsidence section of the Annual Report. There is no refuse pile at this site and the sediment pond was backfilled in 1995. The permittee recently applied for final bond release.

Through a cooperative agreement with the permittee, the U.S. Forest Service monitored subsidence at this site by aerial photogrammetric methods from 1979 until 1987. In 1987, this subsidence monitoring program was discontinued because subsidence, which was slight to begin with (less than 1 foot total) was no longer occurring.

From 1987, when subsidence monitoring was discontinued, until present, the permittee has conducted a yearly on-the-ground search for subsidence damage. These searches, which have been documented in every annual report, have turned up neither subsidence damage nor even visible surface manifestations of subsidence. The most recent of these searches was done on October 17, 1996 by representatives of Environmental Industrial Services of Spring Glen, Utah. This search is documented in the 1996 Annual Report. Like all previous searches conducted by the permittee, this search turned up no subsidence damage and no surface manifestations of subsidence.

1996 Annual Report
ACT/015/004
June 9, 1997
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the subsidence survey information be accepted by the Division as satisfying the regulatory requirement for the Annual Report.

O:\015004.HU4\FINAL\ANNLRPRT.HU4