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United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
BROOKS TOWERS  
1020 15TH STREET  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

Copy to Joe  
File ACT/015/022

Jim

November 4, 1980

Mr. Ron Daniels  
Coordinator of Mined Land Development  
Department of Natural Resources  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Mr. Daniels:

Enclosed please find a copy(s) of on-site inspection report. The inspection was conducted within HIDDEN VALLEY MINE during the period of September 15, 1980.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Ehmett, Acting Chief  
Division of Inspection & Enforcement

RECEIVED

NOV 6 1980

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

REGION V ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

SOLDIER CREEK COAL COMPANY  
HIDDEN VALLEY MINE  
P.O. Box AS  
Price, Utah 84501  
(801) 637-4429

DATE: September 15, 1980  
TIME: 1:45 p.m.  
WEATHER: Sunny, warm, and clear  
COUNTY AND STATE: Emery, Utah  
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Tom Palusoc  
STATE OFFICIAL: D. Wayne Hedberg  
OSM OFFICIAL: Eileen Doherty  
STATE PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/015/022  
MSHA NUMBER: 42-01407  
NOV: 80-5-7-21 issued September 16, 1980

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERIM REGULATIONS

717.11 General Obligations

Maps, plans, and letters of authorization were available for review at the company office in Price. A chronological file is kept of correspondence between Soldier Creek Coal, the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOG M) and the Denver OSM offices. The progression of submissions, approvals, and stipulations is well organized in this file.

717.12 Signs and Markers

The mine identification sign is posted as required. When a State-issued NOV is abated, and the topsoil stockpiles are located as required, topsoil signs will identify stockpiles on the site.

717.17 Protection of the Hydrologic System

The Utah DOGM has given approval for access road, sediment pond, and Seam B bench construction activities. A State Cease Order issued in June 1980 called for a cessation of all activities for several days. During this cessation period, the construction contractor left the Hidden Valley site and had not yet returned by the time of this inspection. There were no runoff control structures in place around disturbed areas. Violation #1 of NOV 80-5-7-21 cites a failure to control this runoff. Violation #2 cites a failure to line the Seam A undisturbed runoff diversion ditch to minimize contact with loose soils and coal.

There are three sedimentation ponds planned for the Hidden Valley Mine. Construction is planned to begin again this fall.

HIDDEN VALLEY MINE

717.17 Protection of the Hydrologic System (cont'd)

NPDES Permit #UT-0023701 for this operation is in the public comment period

There are seven cased groundwater drill holes. Three holes were dry; three flow, and the seventh has dried up since drilling. The groundwater monitoring plan is presently under review by DOGM.

717.20 Topsoil and Revegetation

The June State Cease Order was issued for improper topsoil handling. The associated abatement date is October 31, 1980. At that time, all available topsoil from the bench levels will be stockpiled and protected.

Seeding must take place this fall on disturbed areas, which include berms, topsoil stockpiles, and fill slopes.

SUMMARY

OSM NOV 80-5-7-21 is outstanding for two violations of Section 717.17.

  
EILEEN DOHERTY  
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST