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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

June 23, 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 May 13, 1980.

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

Sincerely,

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

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JUN 25 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: May 13, 1980
TIME: 10 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.
WEATHER: Sunny, clear and cool
COUNTY AND STATE: Emery, Utah
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Tom Paluso
STATE OFFICIAL: Joe Helfrich
OSM OFFICIAL: Eileen Doherty
STATE PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/015/022
MSHA NUMBER: 42-01407

GENERAL COMMENTS

Groundwork has recently begun on the access road to the Hidden Valley minesite. The county started road construction in December 1979 on their portion of the access road which intersects the State highway. Soldier Creek more recently started work on the portion of the access road for which they are solely responsible.

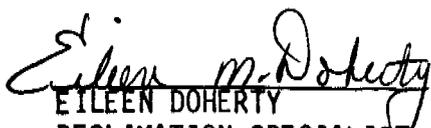
The minesite was visited in the morning by State and Federal inspectors. No work other than road construction had taken place. Available topsoil was stockpiled by the operator.

We visited the company office to speak with Tom Paluso that afternoon.

On February 4, 1980, the operator was given Conditional Tentative Approval of the mine plan, and on April 14, 1980, the State issued the Final Approval. Surface and mineral rights are privately owned. An April 16, 1980 letter from Mr. Paluso informed the State Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining that the roadwork would begin on April 17, 1980. The bond posting contract is dated April 4, 1980.

The operator is responsible for 0.622 miles of the access road which has been designed to meet permanent Federal requirements. The road has been approved as designed. Overall grade for a consecutive 1200 foot length of the class II road is 14.6 percent.

The sidecasting which has resulted from the operator's road construction is still under review by the State DOGM. The Division is uncomfortable with this road construction practice and may require an alternate method.


EILEEN DOHERTY
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST

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