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File

July 10, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement Folder

FROM: Sandy Pruitt, Mining Field Specialist SP

RE: Hidden Valley Mine, Soldier Creek Coal Company, INA/015/007, Folder #7, Emery County, Utah

DATE:	June 18, 1985 June 20, 1985
TIME:	4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
WEATHER:	Fair, hot
COMPANY OFFICIAL:	June 20, 1985: Dave Spillman
STATE OFFICIAL:	Sandy Pruitt
ENFORCEMENT:	None

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMANENT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

UMC 771 et al Permits

Plans submitted May 8, 1985 for a small area exemption at the gravel storage pile were approved May 22, 1985. A modification to the water monitoring program was approved as outlined in a DOGM letter dated March 12, 1985.

In a letter dated May 29, 1984, DOGM requested that Soldier Creek Coal Company determine whether the Hidden Valley Mine will be reclaimed under the approved interim plans (which incorporate by reference the permanent program reclamation standards) or repermit the mine operation under the permanent program. A response deadline was originally set at June 29, 1985. During the interim, the Soldier Canyon Mine was purchased, in principal, by Sun Oil Company. The outcome of the Hidden Valley mine is uncertain. In a letter dated June 27, 1985, Soldier Creek Company requested an extension of the decision deadline until September 15, 1985, at which time the purchase of the Soldier Canyon mine should be finalized and a decision on the Hidden Valley Mine could be made.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

The mine identification sign was in place as required. A topsoil marker is posted. Restricted access signs were posted at the mine portal. Due to the inactive status of the mine operation, perimeter and buffer zone markers are not required, until any surface activity is commenced.

UMC 817.21-.25 Topsoil

The germination success on the topsoil stockpile, which was hydroseeded in April, was fair. Germination of Alfalfa is predominant. Western wheatgrass is fairly established from before. Russian Thistle and Halogeton are also prevalent on the stockpile. The tactified mulch is well secured and provides an excellent wind guard.

UMC 817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

All runoff control measures inspected were adequate. Soldier Creek Coal Company cut a hole in the sediment pond discharge pipe on June 5, 1985 to reopen the outlet which was totally blocked by stream sediments, as is was located within the floodplain. The distance between the inlet and outlet of the pond discharge pipe is about 35 feet, with a steep decline. The square hole cut into the pipe, near the outlet, is about the same diameter as the corrogated pipe. The new opening is less that 10 feet from the floodplain of Ivie Creek. Dave Hooper was consulted with this description of the change. His concern was over the erosion and sedimentation that could be caused by the water discharged onto the slope above the floodplain. Soldier Creek Coal Company should consider placing riprap around the hole in the pipe to minimize erosion along the pipe, to the extent possible.

Dave Spillman reported that Tom Paluso conducted an inspection of the sediment pond on June 5, 1985, but has not yet written an inspection report.

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cc: Donna Griffin
Dave Spillman
Joe Helfrich

Statistics: See Des-Bee-Dove Mine memo dated July 8, 1985