

0007

April 10, 1985

TO: Coal File, Enforcement and Inspection Folder  
FROM: Sandy Pruitt, Mining Field Specialist *SP*  
RE: Hidden Valley Mine, INA/015/007, Folder 7, Emery County, Utah

DATE: March 19 and 21, 1985  
TIME: 4:00-5:00 P.M., 1:00-2:30 P.M.  
respectively  
WEATHER: Slight rain showers  
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Dave Spillman  
STATE OFFICIAL: Sandy Pruitt  
ENFORCEMENT ACTION: NOV #N85-2-4-2

A complete inspection of the above-mentioned inactive mine site was conducted by Sandy Pruitt on March 19, 1985. Slight rain showers were occurring during this inspection. There were no significant changes at the mine site since the last complete inspection conducted in January, 1985.

A ditch and berm around the topsoil stockpile had not been maintained so that sheet erosion off the stockpile deposited topsoil outside of the berm. The surface of the topsoil stockpile is void of vegetation; therefore, there is no protection from wind or water erosion. Since Soldier Creek Coal Company has not been able to establish an effective vegetative cover on the topsoil stockpile since 1981, it is necessary to provide an effective soil stabilizer in its place until an effective vegetative cover is established.

NOV #1 of 2, N85-2-4-2, was issued to Dave Spillman at the Soldier Creek Coal Office on March 21, 1985.

Violation #1 of 2 was issued for the failure to protect the topsoil stockpile from wind and water erosion, UMC 817.23(b), UCA 40-10-17(2)(e). The remedial action required by NOV #1 of 2 is to:

1. provide and maintain effective soil stabilization measures until an effective vegetative cover is established to minimize wind erosion;
2. reestablish and maintain a ditch and berm around the entire base of the stockpile.

The original abatement deadline was set at April 4, 1985.

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There is no sediment control provided for the gravel stockpile located next to the mine identification sign at the beginning of the mine access road. Therefore, NOV #2 of 2, N85-2-4-2, was warranted for the failure to pass all surface drainage from the disturbed area through a sediment pond or treatment facility to prevent additional contributions of suspended solids to runoff leaving the permit area, UMC 817.42(a)(1), UMC 817.45, UMC 40-10-18(2)(i)(ii).

Soldier Creek Company was provided several options for abating NOV #2 of 2 with the submittal of plans to obtain DOGM approval of alternative sediment control measures that provide adequate containment and/or treatment of runoff from the small gravel storage area. Plans should address requirements of UMC 817.42(a)(3). Or relocating the gravel to within the disturbed area drainage boundaries for the mine sediment pond. Or utilizing the gravel as road base for maintenance of the road surface. The original abatement deadline was set at April 4, 1985. These options are warranted because of the unclear status of the Hidden Valley Mine. The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Administration and Legal Counsel are in process of determining whether Soldier Creek Coal Company needs to submit a permanent program permit application for the mine and/or require reclamation in accordance with permanent performance standards at this time. Regardless of that decision, adequate sediment control measures need to be provided for the gravel storage area in accordance with the applicable permanent program performance standards. The permanent program performance standards cited in NOV 1 and 2 were also interim performance standards.

At the mine office, Mr. Spillman was completing a pond inspection form reporting on his sediment pond inspection conducted January 30, 1985, in accordance with UMC 817.46(t). No problems with the sediment pond were being reported.

jl

cc: Donna Griffin, Office of Surface Mining  
Joe Helfrich, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
Dave Spillman, Soldier Creek Company

Statistics: Per diem, \$118

Vehicle EX-49611, 689 miles

0171Q-28 & 29