STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
3 Triad Center · Suite 350 · Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 · (801) 538-5340

0015

inspection report

☑ Partial
☐ Complete
☐ Exploration

Inspection Date: June 8, 1993
Time: 10 :00 ☒am ☐pm to 4 :00 ☐am ☒pm
Date of Last Inspection: May 25, 1993

Mine Name: Hidden Valley County: Emery Permit Number: Act/015/007
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Hidden Valley Coal Company
Business Address: 1801 University Drive, Phoenix, Arizona 85034
Type of Mining Activity: ☑ Underground ☐ Surface ☐ Prep. Plant ☐ Other
State Officials(s): Bill Malencik & Tom Munson
Company Official(s): Karla Knoop
Federal Official(s): N/A
Weather Conditions: Clear/Windy
Existing Acreage: Permitted-950 Disturbed-6 Regraded-7 Seeded-6 Bonded-7
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-___ Disturbed-___ Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded-___
Status: ☑ Exploration / ☐ Active / ☑ Inactive / ☐ Temporary Cessation / ☐ Bond Forfeiture
☐ Reclamation (☑ Phase I / ☐ Phase II / ☐ Final Bond Release / ☑ Liability 1996 Year Bond)

• Followup action recommended.

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions
1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
   a. For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
   b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	☑	☐	☑	☐
3. TOPSOIL	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS Pending NOV 91-26-8-2	☐	☐	☑	☑
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES Pending NOV 91-26-8-2	☐	☐	☑	☑
d. WATER MONITORING	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. EXPLOSIVES	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. NONCOAL WASTE	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	☐	☐	☐	☐
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	☐	☐	☐	☐
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	☐	☐	☐	☐
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	☐	☐	☐	☐
13. REVEGETATION Pending NOV 91-26-8-2	☐	☐	☑	☑
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	☐	☐	☐	☐
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	☐	☐	☐	☐
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	☐	☐	☐	☐
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	☐	☐	☐	☐
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	☐	☐	☐	☐
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____(date)	☐	☐	☐	☐
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	☐	☐	☐	☐
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	☐	☐	☐	☐
• 22. Explatory Drill Holes	☐	☐	☑	☐

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Please number comments to correspond with topics on previous page.

General Comments The purpose of this partial inspection was to field check and validate that three exploratory bore holes were properly sealed. Refer to attachment I, R645-301-631, Utah Coal Regulation pertaining to sealing boreholes. Also, refer to attachment II, page 16, requirements specified in the permit relative to sealing commitments. Further, the operator has recently provided the Division certain information after purging his records.

As part of the Hidden Valley Mine development the operator had seven wells drilled. Drill holes 1, 2, 3 & 7 are water wells. The state engineer has granted the operator additional time to perfect proof of use. Information concerning these wells are documented in the current official files.

Wells/exploratory holes 4, 5 & 6, drilled to a depth of 400+ feet were all dry holes. Refer to attachment II for highlights of an inspection conducted on July 31, 1986. Refer to attachment III for the well/drill hole locations. Refer to attachment IV, well depths and other details.

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WHITE – DOGM YELLOW – OSM PINK – PERMITTEE/OPERATOR GOLDENROD – NOV FILE

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This is what I observed on 6/8/93 concerning drill holes 4, 5 & 6.

DRILL HOLE 6:

(1) Records, attachment II "Drill hole #6 was found to be cemented to the surface with a survey marker installed in the plug".

(2) A weathered wood 2x4 was observed standing and found to have been installed in a drill hole. The drill hole site was located on a sandstone cap. The wood 2x4 and a small quantity of soil was removed, later a small metal rod about three feet in length was inserted and pushed down into the drill hole without contacting any barriers.

(3) Concluded that the drill hole was not cemented to the surface as described in the reclamation plan.

(4) Replaced the wood 2x4 and braced it so it would be erect. Tied an orange labled surveying tape to the the wood 2x4.

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DRILL HOLE 5:

(1) Records, attachment II "Drill hole #5 will be plugged with a five-foot surface plug during reclamation work to be conducted during the fall of 1986"

(2) Found a concrete circular cap about a foot in diameter in the general location as shown on attachment III. Concluded that this was drill hole #5 and that the plugging requirements met the commitments in the plan and pertinent regulations.

DRILL HOLE #4

(1) Records, "The site of drill hole #4 was located but the actual hole could not be found indicating that it has most likely been plugged and backfilled."

(2) Neither the drill hole nor the site could be located. Furthermore, in the general area as shown on the map where drill hole #5 was drilled no evidence of a dozer trail could be located nor any evidence of a pad (drilling) like disturbance was found.

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All drill holes discussed herein were the subject of Division Order 92-B issued to the Hidden Valley Coal Company.

Recommendations.

(1) Drill holes 1, 2, 3 & 7 are water wells. The State Engineer has granted the permittee additional time to perfect proof of use. The operator has provided the Division updated information as requested on the aforementioned wells. Therefore these holes will be evaluated under applicable state regulations on final bond release.

(2) Drill hole #5 has been plugged as described herein. Recommend a letter be sent to the permittee documenting the current findings. Such documentation should expidite the process of bond release on drill hole #5 when the permittee requests final total bond release on the mine site. The prior statement is based on the fact no visual adverse environmental nor safety impacts resulted from drilling nor plugging "dry drill" hole #5. Do not expect field conditions to change as related to future impacts than exist at the present time, ie. none.

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(3) Drill hole #6 must be plugged as described in the approved reclamation plan. While few environmental reasons there ... no sense of urgency; nevertheless, drill hole #6 must be plugged on or before October 1, 1993.

(4) Drill hole #4, the permittee must make an additional documented concerted effort to locate the site and drill hole #4.

Signs & Markers. Observed the I.D. sign at the interface of the county road and permit/disturbed area.

Outstanding Violations - NOV 91-26-8-2 remains unabated and pending in state court.

Attachments

I- 1/2 & 2/2 Utah Coal Mining Regulations On Plugging Exploratory Drill Holes.

II- Pg. 16 Hidden Valley Coal Co. Reclamation Plan. Drill hole commitments

III Map. " " " " " " Drill hole/well locations

IV Pg. 16 1/2 & 2/2 " " " " " " " " " details.

Copy of report mailed to HVCC/Lee Edmonson; JBR/Karla Knoop; OSM/Petta; DOGM/Helfrich State Engineer Office/Warmack

Copy of report ~~given to~~ filed PFO

Inspector's signature [signature] No. 26

WHITE—DOGM YELLOW—OSM PINK—PERMITTEE/OPERATOR GOLDENROD—NOV FILE

6/10/93.

DOGM/IR-2

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624.330. Chemical analyses of the coal seam for acid- or toxic-forming materials, including the total sulfur and pyritic sulfur, except that the Division may find that the analysis of pyrite sulfur content is unnecessary; and

624.340. For standard room and pillar mining operations, the thickness and engineering properties of clays of soft rock such as clay shale, if any, in the stratum immediately above and below each coal seam to be mined.

625. If determined to be necessary to protect the hydrologic balance, to minimize or prevent subsidence, or to meet the performance standards of R645-301 and R645-302, the Division may require the collection, analysis and description of geologic information in addition to that required by R645-301-624.

626. An applicant may request the Division to waive in whole or in part the requirements of R645-301-624.200 and R645-301-624.300. The waiver may be granted only if the Division finds in writing that the collection and analysis of such data is unnecessary because other information having equal value or effect is available to the Division in a satisfactory form.

627. An application for a permit to conduct UNDERGROUND COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES will include, at a minimum, a description of overburden thickness and lithology.

[redacted]

631. Casing and Sealing of Exploration Holes and Boreholes. Each permit application will include a description of the methods used to backfill, plug, case, cap, seal or otherwise manage exploration holes or boreholes to prevent acid or toxic drainage from entering water resources, minimize disturbance to the prevailing hydrologic balance and to ensure the safety of people, livestock, fish and wildlife, and machinery in the permit and adjacent area. Each exploration hole or borehole that is uncovered or exposed by coal mining and reclamation operations within the permit area will be permanently closed, unless approved for water monitoring or otherwise managed in a manner approved by the Division. Use of an exploration borehole as a monitoring or water well must meet the provisions of R645-301-731. The requirements of R645-301-631 do not apply to boreholes drilled for the purpose of blasting.

631.100. Temporary Casing and Sealing of Drilled Holes. Each exploration borehole, other drill hole or borehole which has been identified in the approved permit application for use to return underground development waste, coal processing waste or water to underground workings or to be used to monitor ground water conditions will be temporarily sealed before use and for the purposes of SURFACE COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES, protected during use by barricades, or fences, or other protective devices approved by the Division. These protective devices will be periodically inspected and maintained in good operating condition by the operator conducting surface coal mining and reclamation activities.

631.200. Permanent Casing and Sealing of Exploration Holes and Boreholes. When no longer needed for monitoring or other use approved by the Division upon a finding of no adverse environmental or health and safety effect, or unless approved for transfer as a water well under R645-301-731.400, each exploration hole or borehole will be plugged, capped, sealed, backfilled or otherwise properly managed under R645-301-631 and consistent with 30 CFR 75.1711. Permanent closure methods will be designed to prevent access to the mine workings by people, livestock, fish and wildlife, and machinery and to keep acid or other toxic drainage from entering water resources.

632. [redacted]ch application for a permit to conduct UNDERGROUND COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES will, except where planned subsidence is projected to be used, include as part of the subsidence monitoring plan described under R645-301-525:

632.100. A determination of the commencement and degree of subsidence so other appropriate measures can be taken to prevent or reduce material damage; and

632.200. A map showing the locations of subsidence monitoring points within and adjacent to the permit area.

[redacted]

641. All exploration holes and boreholes will be permanently cased and sealed according to the requirements of R645-301-631 and R645-301-631.200.

642. All monuments and surface markers used as subsidence monitoring points and identified under R645-301-632.200 will be reclaimed in accordance with R645-301-521.210.

731.320. Storage, burial or treatment practices will be consistent with other material handling and disposal provisions of R645 Rules.

731.400. [redacted] Before final release of bond, exploratory or monitoring wells will be sealed in a safe and environmentally sound manner in accordance with R645-301-631, R645-301-738, and R645-301-765. With the prior approval of the Division, wells may be transferred to another party for further use. However, at a minimum, the conditions of such transfer will comply with Utah and local laws and the permittee will remain responsible for the proper management of the well until bond release in accordance with R645-301-529, R645-301-551, R645-301-631, R645-301-738, and R645-301-765.

731.500. [redacted]

731.510. [redacted]

731.511. Discharges into an underground mine are [redacted] unless specifically approved by the Divis[redacted] a demonstration that the discharge will:

731.511.1. Minimize disturbance to the hydrologic balance on the permit area, prevent material damage outside the permit area and otherwise eliminate public hazards resulting from coal mining and reclamation operations;

731.511.2. Not result in a violation of applicable water quality standards or effluent limitations;

731.511.3. Be at a known rate and quality which will meet the effluent limitations of R645-301-751 for pH and total suspended solids, except that the pH and total suspended solids limitations may be exceeded, if approved by the Division; and

731.511.4. Meet with the approval of MSHA.

731.512. Discharges will be limited to the following:

731.512.1. Water;

731.512.2. Coal processing waste;

731.512.3. Fly ash from a coal fired facility;

731.512.4. Sludge from an acid-mine-drainage treatment facility;

731.512.5. Flue-gas desulfurization sludge;

731.512.6. Inert materials used for stabilizing underground mines; and

731.512.7. Underground mine development wastes.

731.513. Water from the underground workings of an UNDERGROUND COAL MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITY may be diverted into other underground workings according to the requirements of R645-301-731.100 through R645-301-731.522 and R645-301-731.800.

731.520. [redacted] MINING AND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES.

731.521. Surface entries and accesses to underground workings will be located and managed to prevent or control gravity discharge of water from the mine. Gravity discharges of water from an underground mine, other than a drift mine subject to R645-301-731.522, [redacted] Division if it is demonstrated that [redacted] R645-301 and R645-302 and any additional NPDES permit requirements.

731.522. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in R645-301-731.521, the surface entries and accesses of drift mines first used after January 21, 1981 and located in acid-producing or iron-producing coal seams will be located in such a manner as to prevent any gravity discharge from the mine.

731.600. [redacted]

731.610. [redacted] a perennial stream or an intermittent stream w[redacted] coal mining and reclamation operations, unless the [redacted] a[redacted]d reclamation operations closer to, or through, such a stream. The Division may authorize such activities only upon finding that:

731.611. Coal mining and reclamation operations will not cause or contribute to the violation of applicable Utah or federal [redacted]dards and will not adversely affect the water [redacted] and quality or other environmental resources of the stream; and

731.612. If there will be a temporary or permanent stream channel diversion, it will comply with R645-301-742.300.

731.620. The area not to be disturbed will be [redacted] zone, and the operator will mark it [redacted] specified in R645-301-521.260.

731.700. [redacted] Each application will contain for the proposed permit area:

731.710. A [redacted] showing the locations of [redacted] current [redacted] into, out of and within a hydrologic area defined by the Division, and those surface waters which will receive discharges from affected areas in the proposed permit area;

731.720. A [redacted]owing the locations of each [redacted] collection, conveyance, treatment, storage and discharge facility to be used. The map will be prepared and c[redacted] according to R645-301-512;

731.730. A [redacted] showing locations and elevations of each [redacted] to be used for [redacted]uring coal mining and reclamation operations. The map will be prepared and certified according to R645-301-512;

731.740. A [redacted]owing the locations of each existing and proposed sedi[redacted] impoundment and coal processing waste bank, dam or embankment. The map will be prepared and certified according to R645-301-512;

731.750. [redacted] for each existing and proposed [redacted] pond, [redacted] and [redacted]. The cross sections will be prepared and certified according to [redacted] and

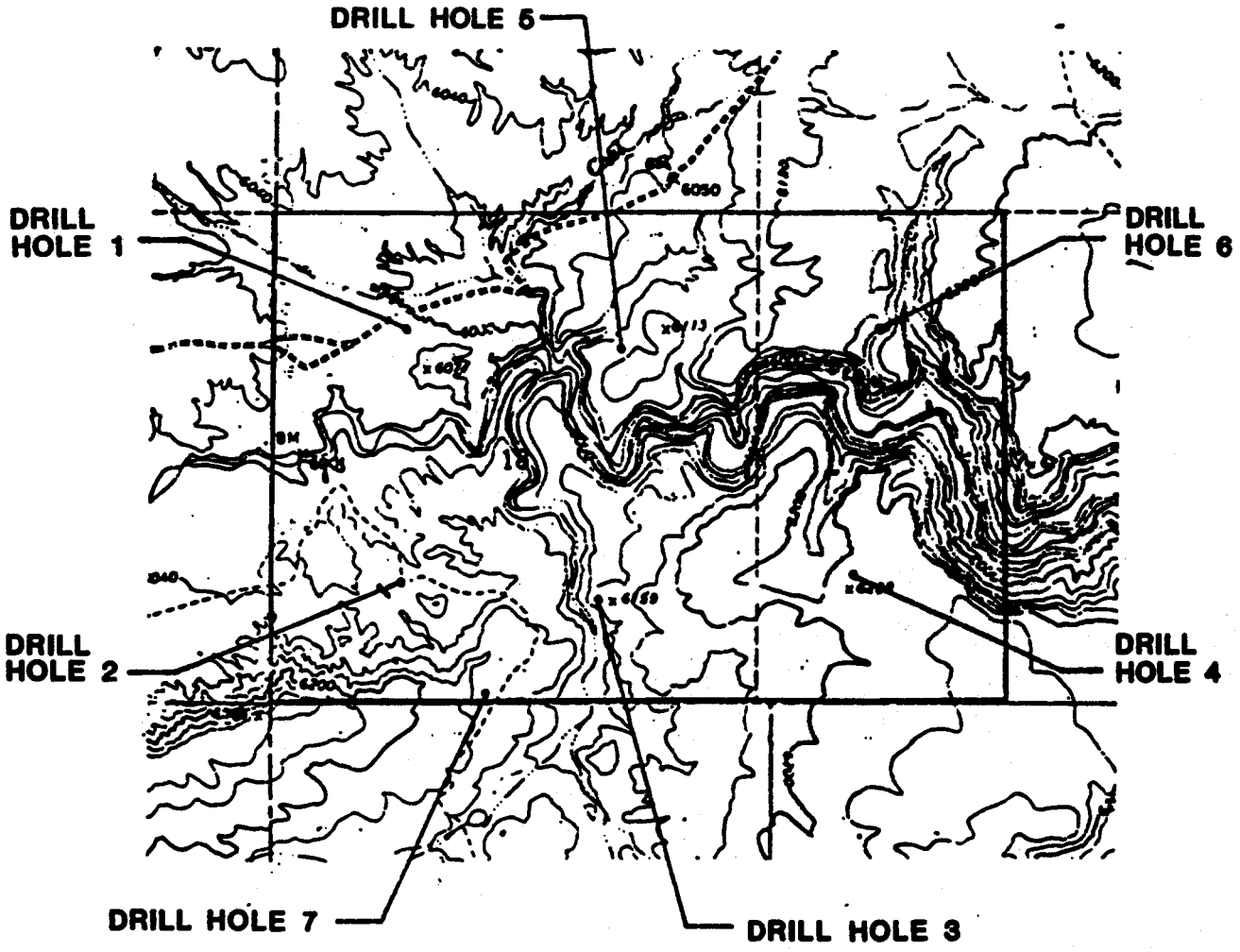
{Attachment II}
Hidden Valley Coal Co.
Reclamation Plan

An inspection of all drill sites was carried out on July 31, 1986. This inspection revealed that drill holes 1, 2, 3, and 7 remain soil-covered as described above and that no leakage, evidenced by either wet soil or unusual plant growth, is taking place. The site of drill hole #4 was located, but the actual drill hole could not be found indicating that it has most likely been plugged and backfilled. Drill holes #5 and #6 were both located. Drill hole #5 was found to be open and covered with plastic sheeting beneath a large rock. Drill hole #6 was found to be cemented to the surface with a survey marker installed in the plug.

Drill hole #5 will be plugged with a five-foot surface plug during the reclamation work to be conducted during the Fall of 1986. Drill holes 1, 2, 3, and 7 will remain in there current condition since the water right for this property represents an asset that significantly enhances the potential for future development and also the property's value for resale. The Division of Water Rights has indicated that the water right is in force and that an extension through January 31, 1988 has been granted allowing the water right holder additional time to develop the water right. Given the potential for future coal development in this area, it is likely that further extensions (five years in term) will be granted. The Division of Water Rights has also indicated that the means of temporarily capping these wells that is described above is acceptable (Mr. Kent

(Attachment III)
Hidden Valley Coal Co
Reclamation Plan

HIDDEN VALLEY MINE



jbr CONSULTANTS GROUP
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

SOLDIER CREEK COAL COMPANY
HIDDEN VALLEY MINE

HIDDEN VALLEY MINE
DRILL HOLE LOCATIONS

REVISIONS			DESIGNED BY	DRAFTER: C. Pixton
			SCALE 1"=2000'	DATE 8/11/86

PLATE IV

[Attachment IV]
Hidden Valley Coal Co.
Reclamation Plan
Pg 1/2

Table 4 Completion Details and Approximate Water Elevations For Boreholes

Drill Hole Number	Collar* Elevation	Depth of Hole	Depth Cased	Perforated or Open Zone	Water Level	Approximate Water Elevation	Comments
DH-1	6020	439	165	165-439	+196	6216	hole uncased thru and beneath water production zone
DH-2	6058	545	155	155-545	-12	6046	"
DH-3	6140	484	155	155-484	+157	6297	"
DH-4	6232	464	0	0	0	0	Dry hole
DH-5	6060	414	0	0	0	0	Dry hole
DH-6	6148	464	0	0	0	0	Dry hole
DH-7	6152	600	600	300-600	>gs**	>6152	Water flowing at the surface - No pressure recorded

* not surveyed - taken from U.S.G.S. Topographic map, Walker Flat Quadrangle, 40 Foot contour interval.
** Ground surface.

Attachment IV
Hidden Valley Coal Co.
Reclamation Plan
Pg 2/2

(b)(6) Not Applicable

(b)(7) Not Applicable

UMC 784.13 (b)(8) Reclamation Plan; General Requirements

Response: See Figure III

UMC 817.13-.15 Casing and Sealing Underground Openings: General Requirements

Response: The four shallow exploration adits are the only underground mine openings. The closure techniques for these openings are described in Section III. There have also been seven (7) exploration drill holes completed on the property. These holes were drilled both to evaluate the coal resource and to explore for groundwater for use as a mine water supply.

The locations of these drill holes are shown on Plate IV. Drill holes 1, 2, #3, and 7 discovered artesian water. These holes are part of an approved and in-force 0.25 CFS water right issued by the Utah Division of Water Rights. The other drill holes, 4, 5, and 6, found no water and were dry. Drill holes 1, 2, 3, and 7 were cased and completed as water wells. Valves were installed on each wellhead. The valves were in turn wrapped with fiberglass insulation, covered with an empty 55 gallon drum, and buried beneath a mound of soil.