



United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
POST OFFICE BLDG. RM. 270
1823 STOUT STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202



July 19, 1979

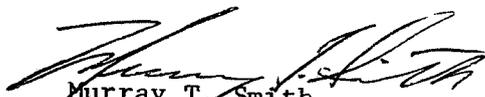
Mr. Ron Daniels
Coordinator of Mined Land Development
Department of Natural Resources
1588 N. West Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Mr. Daniels:

Enclosed please find copies of on-site inspection reports. The inspections were conducted within Trail Mountain Mine of June 6, 1979 (June 7, 1979) during the period

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

Sincerely,


Murray T. Smith
Federal Lands Coordinator

REGION V ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

THE FETTEROLF GROUP
TRAIL MOUNTAIN MINE
P.O. Box 356
Orangeville, Utah 84537

DATE: June 6, 1979 (June 7, 1979)
TIME: 1:30 P.M. to 4:15 P.M. (7:15 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.)
WEATHER: Warm, clear
COUNTY & STATE: Emery County, Utah
STATE PERMIT: ACT/015/009
STATE OFFICIALS: Mike Thompson, Mary A. Wright
OSM OFFICIALS: Gary Fritz, Eileen Doherty, Karen Laney
OPERATORS: Dan Hanna, Harold Mosley
NOV NUMBER: 79-V-5(3)

GENERAL COMMENTS

This mine is located 16 miles west of Orangeville, north of SH #29 off of a Forest Service road that is in Cottonwood Canyon. This narrow canyon is divided by the perennial stream, Cottonwood Creek, and a road that is maintained by the county. The surface facilities are between the creek and the west canyon wall which limits the pad and drainage control system to a small area. The creek has been crossed in two places for entry to the office-portal area and exit from the scale house-coal storage area on the southern end. Fifteen men are mining the seven to eight foot Hiawatha Seam that is being trucked at the rate of 300 tons per month to the Banning siding in Wellington for shipment to Nevada Powder. This room and pillar operation is mined through three portals that include an intake, a fan, and beltline exit.

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERIM REGULATIONS

717.11 Copies of Available Permits

Mr. Mosley, the company president, was not at the mine site during the inspection on the sixth of June. One of his assistant's, Mr. Hanna, could not find the current mine permit and approved plans in the company's files. Since we were scheduled to be in the area the next day, we went back to meet Mr. Mosley, to review the permits and associated plans along with the violations that were noted. All of the required documents were reviewed and were found to be in compliance.

717.12 Signs and Markers

The state previously issued a NOV for the lack of a permit sign. A sign was posted, but it was inadequate and there should have been another one posted at the lower entrance. Consequently, NOV Number 79-V-5-8 No. 2, was issued for this infraction.

717.14 Backfilling and Grading

This mine is a part of the old Robertson Mine so some of the development work for the surface facilities was done prior to PL 95-87.

The Utah Power & Light Company may drive an adit or a series of drifts for the Wilberg Mine in through East Mountain. The Fetterolf Group and Utah Power & Light are considering a joint venture to divert Cottonwood Creek through a culvert so there is more area for their surface facilities. As it is now, the Trail Mountain Mine is restricted to a narrow bank which is obviously a problem for any new development. The Forest Service is considering the proposal, but they do not favor the idea, according to Mike Thompson.

717.15 Excess Rock and Earth Materials

Excess Rock and earth materials have been removed from the underground workings at irregular intervals since the mine's opening. Part of the old mine caved in, so the current owner had to either go around or through the area to expose the coal that is being mined at this time. He decided to go through the cave-in. The waste produced from this renovation was deposited on top of and around the old disposal site which is now about 550 feet in length with an average angle of repose of 60% or more.

Cottonwood Creek is less than 50 feet from the eastern edge of the waste pile, and a sediment pond is built adjacent to the southern edge of it. Mr. Mosley says that they are no longer using the area for disposal. NOV Number 79-V-5-8(1) was issued for the failure to cover the disposal site according to the interim regulations. Mr. Mosley indicated that this waste material may be used as fill for the present sediment pond. Since the pond is not large enough to sustain runoff from the affected area during a 10 year 24 hour storm a new location may be needed. The present site cannot be enlarged because it is pinched between the canyon wall and Cottonwood Creek. This proposed disposal should be carefully reviewed and implemented in accordance with the standards that are cited in Section 715.15.

717.17 Protection of the Hydrologic System

Drainage control is not adequate for this mine even though some changes have been made in response to a Notice of Violation that was issued by the state. As a result, Violation Number 3 of Notice of Violation Number 79-V-5-8 was issued for several areas that drained runoff from the surface facility directly into the creek prior to treatment and discharge from a sediment pond.

The areas cited are:

1. The two stream crossings were not graded properly, so most of the drainage on the pad can flow down to, and off of, both sides of the roads into the creek. Berms were built along the outside of the pad, but the roads are a break in the flow pattern so the drainage was controlled up to the crossing but failed to be diverted around the crossing.
2. There was also a small area above the office-maintenance shop that has drained into the creek long enough and with sufficient force to erode a one to two foot deep erosion ditch down to the stream channel.

Neither the ground water or surface water monitoring plan was proposed or in effect for this mine so the state has issued an NOV. The NOV for the surface water monitoring has been modified to require immediate sampling of springs, seeps, and water made in the mine for a set of specified parameters.

The sediment pond is being redesigned to bring the storm retention and discharge capacity into compliance with the current standards. As previously indicated in this report, there is some doubt about the location of the pond because the size and restriction of area at the present site. If the pond remains in the current location, the operator will have to reline the impoundment. There is a sinkhole in the bottom of the pond on the southern end. The problem was discussed and there is still some doubt as to where the water goes, but there is no doubt that the water collected in the pond will percolate out. There are no deep mines below the impoundment and there wasn't any sign of any seepage on the embankment.

717.20 Topsoil Handling and Revegetation

There isn't any development work on the surface facilities at this time. However, if a new pond is going to be built, topsoil should be set aside for reclamation.



GARY FRITZ
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST