

June 19, 1979

Memo to Coal File:

Re: The Fetterolf Group  
Trail Mountain Coal Mine  
ACT/015/009

The Trail Mountain Coal Mine, operated by The Fetterolf Group, was inspected on June 6, 1979 by Gary Fritz, Eileen Doherty and Karen Laney of the U.S. Office of Surface Mining; Dan Hanna from the mining company; and Mary Ann Wright of the Division. As the mine engineer was not on the site the Federal inspectors returned the following morning with Mike Thompson of the Division.

Violations were issued by the Federal inspectors for the spoil pile, signs and failure to pass all runoff through the pond. Refer to the file copy of N.O.V. No. 79-V-5-8 for specifics. The Division has pending violations for the spoil pile. Specifically, a notice was previously issued and a commitment to reclaim the site was received. However, Fetterolf Group requested technical assistance from the Division.

A meeting was subsequently held on the site between Mr. Tuttle of Johansen & Tuttle Engineering and Mike Thompson on June 12, 1979 concerning compliance measures. Items discussed were the culverts in Cottonwood Creek, the spoil pile, the existing sediment pond and proposed ponds and revegetation. Proposed compliance measures are compounded by the possibility of UP&L constructing a portal facility for the Wilberg Mine immediately across the creek from the Trail Mountain Mine. Plans for the UP&L facility should be submitted this winter, and will probably include culverting the creek past both mines and a sediment pond sized for both facilities.

Possible options discussed include the following:

1. Upgrade the existing sediment pond to bring it into compliance. Delay work on the spoil pile and culverts until plans from UP&L are received. This option would probably reduce the amount of disturbed land in the long term. Revegetate disturbed areas this fall.

2. Require the company to haul the spoil to an approved disposal site, out of the drainage. Upgrade the existing pond or reconstruct a new pond. Implace adequate sized culverts. Revegetate this fall. This option would bring the mine into compliance quickly, but the work concerning the pond and culverts would probably be redone in the following summer by UP&L.

3. Johansen & Tuttle is considering constructing a new pond, on U.S.F.S. administered land, down canyon. The spoil pile is to be buried in the existing pond and possibly in the bottom of the new pond. Burying the spoil material within the immediate area of the creek may be acceptable.

K. MICHAEL THOMPSON  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

*KMP*

cc: Region V, OSM, Attn: Murray Smith

Note: Accounting Statistics  
see following page

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Note: Accounting Statistics

June 6, 1979

Vehicle #68804  
Perdiem \$27.50  
Total Miles - 254  
Man Hours - 8

June 7, 1979

Included in U.S. Steel Memo of June 14, 1979

June 12, 1979

Vehicle #68805  
Perdiem - none  
Total Miles - 327  
Man Hours - 10