

February 22, 1979

Memo to File:

Re: The Fetterolf Group  
Trail Mountain Coal Mine  
Emery County, Utah  
ACT/015/009

The Trail Mountain Coal Mine was inspected on February 16, 1979 by Tom Suchoski and Mike Thompson. Mr. Harold Mosley accompanied the Division staff.

The recent warm weather had caused considerable snowmelt which in turn caused the county-maintained unpaved access road to be in very poor condition. A county crew was repairing the road at the time.

The interim program regulations were discussed with Mr. Mosley. Mr. Mosley's biggest concern is that Utah Power and Light is presently considering a new portal location across Cottonwood Creek. If the portal is installed, any work the Fetterolf Group would do at this time would be in vain. However, Utah Power and Light cannot commit themselves at this time to constructing the site.

Violations of the interim regulations found at the Trail Mountain Mine are listed below.

- MC-717.11 - A copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan including the hydrologic monitoring plan was not on or near the site.
- MC-717.12 - Signs showing the name, business address, telephone number and permit numbers were not displayed at the access points to the county road.
- MC-717.15 - Spoil material has been disposed of in an unapproved site. The spoil was not disposed of in an engineered manner; it was not properly compacted; and it was not certified by a professional registered engineer.
- MC-717.17 - a) Snowmelt runoff from all of the disturbed area was contained within the sediment pond. However, the pond has not been properly engineered, constructed nor approved. Specifically, it is unknown if the pond capacity meets volume and discharge requirements. A proper spillway system has not been installed. Surface water monitoring has not been initiated and a N.P.D.E.S. discharge permit has not been obtained for the pond. The outside slopes of the pond, diversion and berm have not been seeded. A sediment disposal plan has not been submitted.

As the pond is not properly engineered, the possibility of structural failure exists and thereby possibly creating an imminent environmental hazard.

- b) There is no surface water monitoring plan in effect.
- c) The diversion (berm) seems to adequately channel runoff to the sediment pond. However the areas where roads cross the creek need better drainage control. The entire outside slope of the berm adjacent to the creek needs to be revegetated. A culvert is not installed so as to channel water from the canyon near the portal to Cottonwood Creek.
- f) Possible discharges from the sediment pond outlet are not controlled so as to reduce erosion and sedimentation.
- h) There is no groundwater monitoring program in effect.

MC-717.20 - Disturbed areas that are not continually needed for mining should be revegetated. An example is the outside slope of the berm and pad adjacent to Cottonwood Creek.

Corrective Measures which must be completed to comply with The Interim Program Regulations.

1. Keep a copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan on site. Copies of the surface and groundwater monitoring plan with the records of such must also be kept on site.
2. Install proper signs at the access points from the county road.
3. Regrade the spoil pile, and if it is no longer needed, reclaim such as specified in Rules MC-717.14, and MC-717.15 and MC-717.20.
  - a. Any further deposition of mine refuse material must be performed in a controlled (engineered) manner in accordance with MC-717.14 or MC-717.15
4. Submit a design for the sediment pond which has been certified by a registered engineer. The pond outlet design, revegetation, design capacity, discharge monitoring program and a sediment disposal monitoring program must be included.
5. Submit and initiate a surface water monitoring program.
6. Upgrade the drainage control where the roads cross Cottonwood Creek. Replace the two small culverts in Cottonwood Creek with culverts capable of passing the design flood. Install a culvert of adequate size to divert runoff from the canyon near the portal to the creek.
7. Submit and initiate a groundwater monitoring program.
8. Revegetate disturbed areas no longer needed for mining such as the outside slope of the berm and pad adjacent to the creek, the spoil pile and the sediment pond after reconstruction.

K. MICHAEL THOMPSON  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

*K.M.T.*

/sp  
cc: Harold Mosley  
David R. Mills  
Murray Smith, O.S.M., Denver