

July 2, 1980

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

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

APPENDIX A
Violation Status - State Inspection
Dated February 22, 1979

Violation #1, Rule MC 717.11 - A copy of the mining and reclamation plan including the hydrologic monitoring plan was not on or near the site.

Violation #2, Rule MC 717.12 - Sign showing the name, business address, telephone number and permit numbers were not displayed at the access points to the county road.

Violation #3, Rule 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.

Violation #4, Rule 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. The proper spillway system has not been installed. Surface water monitoring has not been initiated and an 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. The sediment disposal plan has not been submitted.

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

b. There is not 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 outslope of the berm adjacent to the creek needs to be revegetated. The culvert has not been installed so as to channel water from the canyon near the portal to Cottonwood Creek.

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d. Possible discharges in the sediment pond outlet are not controled so as to reduce erosion and sedimentation.

e. There is not groundwater monitoring program in effect.

Violation #5, Rule 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.

State and Federal Inspection
Dated June 6 & 7, 1979

Violation #1, Rule 30 CFR, Section 714.14 - Failure to cover coal and acid-forming, toxic-forming, combustibile and other waste materials.

Violation #2, Rule 30 CFR, Section 717.12 - Failure to post or posting inadequate signs.

Violation #3, Rule 30 CFR, Section 717.17 - Failure to pass surface drainage from the disturbed area through sedimentation ponds.

Division Directive
September 24, 1979

The Division is presently reviewing Utah Power and Light's proposal. Until a final decision is reached, the Division hereby directs The Fetterolf Group to do the following work on the existing pond:

1. Install a manually operated de-watering devise to be located 4 feet above the present sediment storage level;
2. Install an emergency overflow spillway capable of passing peakflow from the 25-year runoff event;
3. Riprap the areas of discharge for these structures;
4. Apply for an N.P.D.E.S. permit.

This action is to reduce the possibility of failure of the pond until the new pond proposed by Utah Power and Light is constructed. These abatement measures were signed by Ronald W. Daniels.

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Inspection Memo to Coal File
February 19, 1980
Trail Mountain Coal Company
ACT/015/009

The Trail Mountain Coal Mine was inspected by Joe Helfrich and Mike Thompson on the afternoon of February 5 & 6, 1980. While inspecting the Cottonwood Portal area of Utah Power and Light the inspectors noted that a small percentage of surface runoff from the disturbed area resulting from the melting of snowpeak was not being diverted into the sediment pond. Specifically, approximately 1/2 to 1 gallon per minute of runoff was flowing across the upper crossing of Cottonwood Creek and thence down the public road and finally into the Creek. A small amount of runoff was directly contributing sediment to the Creek and also was causing the road to be excessively muddy. Traffic on the road caused the road to remain muddy and probably causing additional contribution of sediment to the Creek.

Mr. Tom Rice of Trail Mountain Coal Company was immediately contacted and he very promptly had the problem corrected. In addition, the entire runoff diversion system was reworked. As Mr. Rice acted expediently and cooperatively, the violation was not issued.

The inspectors returned on the afternoon of February 6, 1980, to do a complete walkover of the property. Upon entering the property the inspectors noted a miner maintaining the diversion system.

The inspectors also noted that a submersible pump had been installed in the Cottonwood Creek to provide water to the storage tank on the hillside above the bathhouse. The Division must check with the State Engineer to be sure that this water is appropriated. Mr. Rice was told that the overflow must be extended to the Creek to reduce erosion.

Runoff was also observed flowing over the nearly verticle hillside adjacent to the coal stockpile which was eroding the hillside although the runoff flowed to the sediment pond, Mr. Rice was informed that runoff control was required in order to reduce the loss of soil in the permit area.

State and Federal Inspection
February 22, 1980

Violation #1, Rule 30 CFR, Section 717.17(j)(1) and P.L. 95-87, Section 515(b)(10)(B)(i) - Failure to prevent additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow or to runoff outside the permit area. Portion of the operation to which the notice applies - Surface facilities immediately adjacent to an access road passing over Cottonwood Creek.

JOSEPH C. HELFRICH
RECLAMATION SOILS SPECIALIST

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cc: Murray Smith, O.S.M.