

April 10, 1985

TO: Coal File, Enforcement and Inspection Folder
FROM: Sandy Pruitt, Mining Field Specialist *SP*
RE: Trail Mountain Mine, ACT/015/009, Folder 7, Emery County, Utah

A partial inspection of the Trail Mountain Mine was conducted between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. on March 19, 1985. At the time of this inspection, Trail Mountain Coal Company was in the process of regrading the pad surface for improved runoff control for the parking lot and loadout areas. The surface grades behind the shop/office building had not been maintained since winter and, therefore, allowed extensive ponding on the pad.

There was concern with ponding at the base of the drainage berm above Cottonwood Creek and before the drainage culvert along the fenceline. It was requested that Trail Mountain immediately address this concern by raising the berm along the creek at the ponding section and improve the surface grade at this culvert inlet in order to drain the ponding. This was accomplished before the end of the inspection.

The sediment storage area, which will be constructed into a pad extension for the trash storage area, needs to be recompacted once the sediment material thaws and drains sufficiently. Tension cracks were apparent at the crest of the storage area. Allen Childs pointed out that the preexisting fill material from a previous sediment pond cleaning operation is well established. Trail Mountain will compact the new sediment in 5-foot lifts and use the existing fill for support at the toe of the pad extension.

The sediment remaining in the pond around the standpipes is much more extensive than originally thought. Trail Mountain may require another contract for removal of the additional material. The valve on the principal spillway should remain closed until all sediment is removed from around the standpipe.

Since the last inspection, Trail Mountain has improved the erosion stabilization measures on the downslope of the fan pad by reestablishing the surface grade, filling in low spots, blocking off excessive gullies onto the downslope, and riprapping adequately spaced drop diversions on the downslope. Once completed, these erosion stabilization measures should provide adequate drainage and sediment control for the fan pad area.

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Trail Mountain installed a flow meter on the mine water pumps into and out of the mine on Wednesday, March 13. The flow meter on the line from the creek was installed with a reading of 1473. At the time of this inspection, the meter read 1483. Creek water is used for steam cleaning and is treated for use in the showers in addition to use in the mine.

jl

cc: Donna Griffin
Joe Helfrich

Statistics:

See Hidden Valley Mine memorandum dated April 10, 1985
0171Q-30 & 31