0028 ✓ 6-22-87

UTAH NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining
3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • (801) 538-5340

inspection report

Permit No. ACT/015/009-1
Inspection Date May 27, 1987

Permittee/Operator Name (TRAIL MTN COAL Co.) ARCH MINERALS
Business Address P.O. Box 370
City Orangeville State Utah Zip 84537
Mine Trail Mtn ☐ Surface ☒ Underground ☐ Other
County Emery State Utah.
Company Official(s) Allen Childs, Mine Engineer
State Official(s) Wm. J Malencik DOGM; Henry Austin, OSM
Time of inspection 9:00 ☒ a.m. ☐ p.m. to 3:00 ☐ a.m. ☒ p.m. ☐ Partial ☒ Complete
Date of last inspection April 1, 1987 Weather conditions Pt Cloudy/Cool
Acreage 1414.97 ☒ Permitted 8.8 ☒ Disturbed — ☐ Regraded — ☐ Seeded 8.8 ☒ Bonded
Enforcement Action NOV 87-26-2-2; Violation 1 of 2 & 2 of 2.

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
1. Permits	☒	☐	☐	☒
2. Signs and markers	☒	☐	☐	☒
3. Topsoil	☒	☐	☐	☒
4. Hydrologic balance				
a – Stream channel diversions	☒	☐	☐	☒
b – Diversions	☒	☐	☐	☐
c – Sediment ponds and impoundments	☒	☐	☐	☒
d – Other sediment control measures	☒	☐	☐	☒
e – Surface and groundwater monitoring	☒	☐	☐	☐
f – Effluent limitations	☒	☐	☐	☐
5. Explosives	☐	☐	☒	☐
6. Development waste and spoil disposal	☐	☐	☒	☐
7. Coal processing waste	☐	☐	☒	☐
8. Noncoal waste	☒	☐	☐	☒
9. Protection of fish, wildlife, and related environmental values	☒	☐	☐	☐
10. Slides and other damage	☐	☐	☒	☐
11. Contemporaneous reclamation	☒	☐	☐	☐
12. Backfilling and grading	☐	☐	☒	☐
13. Revegetation	☐	☐	☒	☐
14. Subsidence control	☒	☐	☐	☒
15. Cessation of operations	☐	☐	☒	☐
16. Roads				
a – Construction	☒	☐	☐	☐
b – Drainage controls	☒	☐	☐	☐
c – Surfacing	☒	☐	☐	☐
d – Maintenance	☒	☐	☐	☒
17. Other transportation facilities	☐	☐	☒	☐
18. Support facilities and utility installations	☒	☐	☐	☐

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Inspection Date 5-27-87

Please number comments to correspond with topics on previous page.

1 Permit: Trail Mtn has recently obtained a coal lease on tract 2 and DOGM permit was issued and approved on 5/1/87. The current permit includes both tracts 1 & 2.

Attachment A to the subject permit contains eight permit conditions together with time frames on three of the eight conditions. Condition 5 & 7 must be, and were completed before June 1, 1987. Condition 6 is to be completed on or before August 31, 1987

Mid-Term review is currently underway. Three matters need to be considered by Trail Mtn including initiating required action for a DOGM decision ie

(a) Should the Cottonwood Creek macro invertebrate monitoring be required in light of the written comments made by a BYU official very knowledgeable about this issue? In view of the comments it is suggested that Mr. Childs prepare a request to DOGM for suspension of further monitoring.

(b) SW-4 water monitoring on an ephemeral stream needs to be clarified. Current MRP requires

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biannual sampling. On site observations show little evidence of runoff.

(c) Also the biannual mine sump sampling and water analysis frequency needs to be clarified.

NPDES Permit UT0023728 expired and is currently under review by EPA for reissuance per EPA letter of 12/4/86

The Trail Mtn Mine owned by Diamond Shamrock was sold about the end of April. The new owner is ARCH MINERALS headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri.

12 Signs & Markers were observed. Mr Childs mentioned new signs were ordered on 5/19/87 to reflect the new owner. Also, they would be installed a day or two after sign receipt.

4a Cottonwood Stream Channel Diversion was changed without written and/or permit approval by DOGM. This resulted in NOV 87-26-2-2 (violation No 2 of 2) being issued on site. Mr. Childs stated he would contest this NOV.

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Mr. Childs mentioned that the stream channel change had been discussed with DOGM personnel, however he also stated he had nothing in writing nor had he submitted any letters or documents requesting a change in the permit.

Description of the channel in question: (a) located within permitted area (Tract 1), below sediment pond & 66" cottonwood mine site exit culvert and adjacent to Emery County Road. (b) reason for change - channel erosion & encroachment on aforementioned road, (c) nature of the change - channel straightened & rip-rapped. Also realigned and moved away from road.

[C] Sediment pond had been cleaned on 2/2/87 and 10 grab samples taken. At the time of instant inspection the water level was about two feet below the decant level. A small amount of erosion was noted near the pond inlet. The water not flowing into the concrete lined ditch was starting to cut near the concrete ditch

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Mr. Childs state preliminary plans are being discussed with appropriate personnel to consider constructing with DOGM approval a sediment stilling basin. This would facilitate and improve pond cleaning operations. Currently the sediment from the pond is being stockpiled adjacent to the sediment pond inlet. Current volume is estimated at 200 cu.yds. Removing this sediment from the site is a high priority item with the company. Discussion and some preliminary alternatives include (a) Obtaining a parcel of land offsite and securing the necessary permits (b) Initiate discussions with C.V. Spur i.e. Beaver Creek Coal Co. to use their site (c) Utilize Simbad land fill. He anticipated that a decision would be made on this item this summer. Also mentioned that DOGM personnel advised him Simbad land fill was not a viable alternative for reasons he does not fully understand.

Sediment pond monitoring was changed to quarterly on 4/14/86.

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[e] Water monitoring records were reviewed and found to be in conformance with the current MRP. Some matters for the record include: (a) Sediment pond (001) discharged 7/23/86 because of a leaky valve. Repaired promptly with discharge notification to DOGM, EPA & Utah Dept. Health. (b) Mine water (002) last discharge May 8, 1987. Meter reading at the time of inspection, 12297.00. (c) Water analysis on SW-1, SW-2, SW-3, UG-1, T.M-1, T.M-2 and 002 were of record, acceptable and on file.

[8] Noncoal waste, specifically waste oil, procedures discussed in Section 3.2 of the permit, provide that waste oil will be stored and hauled away by Ashworth to an appropriate offsite disposal area. From information gathered, the waste oil is currently being sprayed on the stoker coal at the mine site. Because foregoing waste oil disposal is not in conformance with approved permit, NOV 87-26-2-2 (violation 1 of 2) was issued.

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Sanitary land fill type refuse is currently stored in a soil pit near the sediment pond cleanout material stockpile. Mr Childs mentioned they plan to secure a dumpster in the near future.

[14] Subsidence control records had not been received by the company from the USFS. Mr Childs said the necessary field work and records have been completed. A meeting has been scheduled on 5/29/87 to review the findings

[18] Roads. Mark Chatterton, USFS was in the office (Trail Mtn) and mentioned his concern and mid year comments to DOGM about coal material falling off trucks exiting Trail Mtn Mine.

This item was not discussed with Mr Childs during the inspection now the close out.

Since this matter has been called to the attention of DOGM, followup observations should be made on future inspections to determine and validate if in fact a problem exists under the terms of the permit and/or DOGM regulations.

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Conclusion. The conditions at the mine site were very good in spite of nearly 12 continuous days of unseasonal rainfall. The drain ditchs along the inside of the chain link fence was clean. Also work on discharging water, made during the midyear review, had been completed promptly in accordance with DOGM suggestions

From an inspection point of view the need to be cognizant of the MRP cannot be overemphasized. While the legal responsibility rests with the mine officials, yet DOGM personnel need to be alert to such issues in the early implementation stages before they become violations

Mr. Childs was very professional & cooperative in taking the time to respond to both field & record type questions. His efforts in view of the foregoing are very much appreciated

August 3, 1987 is the abatement deadline & coincides with the submission of other proposed permit changes that may be initiated by Trail Mtn.

Copy of report mailed to Allen P. Childs, (T. Mtn); Donna Griffin, OSM

Copy of report given to John Whitehead, Joe Helfrich

Inspector's signature Tom J. Malencik 6/1/87 No. 26.

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