

0008

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/015/018

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: June 21, 1979

Explanation:

Memo to Coal File

cc:

File in: C/015, 018, Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
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Date _____ For additional information

June 21, 1979

Memo to Coal File:

Re: Utah Power & Light
Deer Creek Coal Mine
ACT/015/018-a

Utah Power & Light's Deer Creek Coal Mine was inspected on June 7, 1979 by Gary Fritz, Karen Laney and Eileen Doherty of the U.S. Office of Surface Mining; a representative of Emery Mining Corp.; and Mike Thompson of the Division.

Violations issued as a result of the May 7, 1979 inspection were checked. Results are as follows:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Rule</u>	<u>Violation</u>
1.	MC-717.17(c)	Slumping of saturated soil had deposited soil material within the half-round culvert diversion. The diversion was to have been cleaned within one week. The violation <u>was</u> abated.
2.	MC-717.17(c)	The left culvert for the access across Deer Creek to the live coal storage yard, adjacent to the power plant, needed additional cleaning. The staff assumed that what coal that existed was frozen when the area was recently rehabilitated as per the Division's March 30, 1979 letter. The culvert was to have been cleaned within one week. The violation <u>was not</u> abated.
3.	MC-717.17(j)	A small area adjacent to the abandoned mine, where the conveyor crosses the road, was used for equipment storage. If the area was to be utilized, sediment control was needed. Minimum abatement measures was to berm the area to prevent runoff from entering the creek and revegetate the portion of the area not required for storage. The area was to be bermed within two weeks or the area reclaimed. The violation <u>was</u> abated by berming the area.
4.	MC-717.20(a)	Disturbed areas no longer required for the conduct of mining operations have not been revegetated. For the purpose of minimizing soil erosion and sedimentation, the Division requires that disturbed areas such as out-slopes of fill structures, exploded cut faces, earth berms, etc., be revegetated. Plans have not yet been submitted; however, the abatement period is not yet over.

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It was observed that the construction of the buried culvert diversion pipe system and the sediment pond were not yet completed. Construction of the section of the diversion system in the far left tributary, adjacent to the pond, appears to be completed. Construction within the main channel of Deer Creek is still waiting for MSHA clearance. MSHA halted construction because of wet soil conditions above the construction site; it appeared to be somewhat unstable. Construction within the right fork is under way; the headbox was being poured during the inspection.

Violations were issued by the Federal inspectors for not posting an adequate sign and for road drainage and maintenance. The sign - that complies with the regulations - was lying on the ground by the guard shack. The sign had apparently been taken down during construction. The sign had also been mislocated during the May 7, 1979 State inspection. The State inspector agreed with the issuance of the violation. The second violation concerned the section of road between the pond and the guard shack. UP&L has since indicated that this is a county road.

Concern was expressed by the Federal inspectors about the fan facility and associated access road. Gary Fritz indicated that topsoil should have been saved during the construction of the site, or the State should have been contacted in writing for a variance. Since the construction date was unknown by the people present a violation was not issued.

Eileen Doherty contacted the Division on June 14, 1979 concerning the road grade of the afore - mentioned access road to the fan. Mike Thompson informed Ms. Doherty that UP&L had previously contacted the Division about the road and the Division's policy is the reconstruction of the road would cause undo environmental damage. As the road is infrequently used and the runoff from the road drains into the sediment pond it is in compliance as specified in MC-717.17 (j) (4).

K. MICHAEL THOMPSON
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

KMP

cc: Region V, OSM; Attn: Murray Smith

Note: For accounting statistics see U.S. Steel memo of June 14, 1979.

KMT/pf