

February 1, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection & Enforcement Folder  
FROM: David Lof, Mining Field Specialist *DL*  
RE: Co-op Mining Company, Bear Creek Canyon Mine, ACT/015/025,  
Folder #7, Emery County, Utah

On January 11, 1985, I conducted a partial inspection at the above mentioned site. I was accompanied on the inspection by Mel Coonrod, representing Co-op Mining Company. At the time of the inspection, it was clear and cold, and some runoff was starting to occur in the operations area.

#### Culvert Downspouts

Mr. Coonrod informed me that he had ordered some flexible downspout to place on the end of: the undisturbed culvert under the upper storage pad, the cross culverts under the portal access road, and the disturbed area runoff culvert from the portal deck. He was waiting delivery of the materials so that they can be installed.

#### Sediment Pond Inspections

Mr. Coonrod had their weekly sediment pond inspection log available. There were no apparent problems with the sediment pond as indicated by the inspection log.

#### Crusher Pad

Ice is building up on the south end of the crusher pad causing runoff to bypass the culvert which is supposed to carry it down the slope to the coal stockpile pad. The runoff was causing erosion on the downslope to the coal stockpile pad. Mr. Coonrod and I discussed some possible means for correcting the problem. Some of the things which the operator may do in order to correct the problem are to:

1. Install a larger, more permanent, culvert inlet headwall.
2. Provide a more defined diversion path across the crusher pad so that the water does not spread out onto the pad.
3. Increase the grade across the pad to the culvert inlet.

It is felt that these measures would help to keep runoff from spreading out on the pad, thereby slowing down and providing more opportunity for freezing and ice build up.

Culvert Inlets

I told Mr. Coonrod to make sure that all culvert inlets are kept clear of snow so that runoff during snow melt does not bypass the culverts causing erosion on surfaces, additional loads on other culverts, and prevent runoff from bypassing sediment controls.

Notice of Violation N85-4-2-1

As I was leaving the mine site, I noted that runoff from the scalehouse area was bypassing the culvert inlet to the sediment basin and running down the Class I haulroad to the mine site, thereby leaving the permit area. The runoff was bypassing the culvert because of snow and ice build up in front of the culvert inlet caused by the operator's snow removal practices. The amount of flow bypassing the culvert was approximately 15 gallons per minute and heavily laden with sediment.

Mr. Coonrod told me that Dennis White of Co-op had noticed the problem just before I had and had gone to get a piece of heavy equipment to correct the problem in a more permanent fashion. Mr. Coonrod and I cleared a temporary drainage path through the snow to the culvert inlet for the runoff so that it could go to the sediment basin.

Because the runoff was bypassing sediment controls and leaving the permit area untreated, Notice of Violation N85-4-2-1 was issued. It reads as follows:

Nature of the Violation:

Failure to pass all disturbed area runoff through a sediment pond, series of sediment ponds, or treatment facility, prior to leaving the permit area. Failure to maintain sediment control structures to prevent, to the extent possible, additional contributions of sediment to stream flow or runoff outside the permit area.

Provision of the Regulations, Act or Permit Violated:

UCA-40-10-18(2)(i)(ii), UMC 817.42(a)(1) and UMC 817.45.

Portion of the Operation to Which Notice Applies:

Scalehouse area runoff bypassing the cross culvert inlet to the sediment basin.

Remedial Action Required:

Conduct snow removal activities in such a manner as to prevent blockage of the culvert inlet.

Time for Abatement:

January 16, 1985 at 5:00 p.m.

I told Mr. Coonrod at the time of the inspection, that they were going to receive a violation for the problem. However, I was not able to issue the violation at the time of the inspection because I had to terminate a Cessation Order I had issued at the Trail Mountain Mine.

Upon returning to the Division offices, I wrote the violation and gave it to Division Mining Field Specialist, Sandy Pruitt, so that she could deliver it to the operator and terminate the violation.

On January 16, 1985, Ms. Pruitt conducted an inspection at the mine site, at which time she delivered the violation to the operator, and found that the snow obstructing the cross culvert inlet had been removed. Since I had told Ms. Pruitt that Mr. Coonrod and I had cleared a path for the runoff to go to the inlet at the time of the inspection, and Mr. Coonrod told her that Dennis White had removed the snow obstructing the inlet within 45 minutes following the inspection, she terminated the violation, effective January 11, 1985. For additional information regarding her inspection, please refer to her Bear Creek Canyon Mine memo dated January 16, 1985.

wj

cc: Mel Coonrod, Co-op Mining Co.  
Donna Griffin, OSM  
Mary Boucek, DOGM  
Joe Helfrich, DOGM  
Tom Munson

Statistics:

See Diamond Shamrock Coal Unit, Trail Mountain Mine memo dated January 17, 1985.

0072Q-39-40-41