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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 10, 1998

Chuck Semborski
PacifiCorp
PO Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

RE: Fire Hazard, PacifiCorp, Cottonwood Mine, ACT/015/019, Folder #2, Emery County, Utah

Dear Mr. Semborski:

This has reference to your telephone call concerning potential combustible plants and plant litter adjacent to the Cottonwood and Wilberg fan portals.

I was accompanied on my July 10, 1998 inspection by Messrs. Cox and Shurtz, PacifiCorp. Mr. Cord Cristando, MSHA, conducted a prior MSHA inspection.

The impetus for my investigation concerned two points: 1) Plant seeding and establishment that had been required by the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining in the area in question, and 2) an MSHA inspection and required follow-up to remove combustible materials.

The MSHA federal regulations are very specific and require main fans and intake air opening areas be kept free of combustible materials.

The three essential components in a fire triangle are ignition, oxygen, and fuel. The chances for an electrical or mine worker caused ignition are remote when considering MSHA safety standards. Lightning as a source of ignition is also remote because of the surrounding topography. The MSHA issue addresses fuel. Therefore, have approved spraying roundup on the vegetation immediately adjacent to the fan. Further, beyond the herbicide approval area mentioned above, please use a grass cutter and then removing the cut vegetation. Currently, all vegetation is in a green physiological stage of development and possesses no fuel fire hazard. However, when it becomes dormant, it becomes more hazardous.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Wm. J. Malencik'.

Wm. J. Malencik
Reclamation Specialist

sd
cc: Joe Helfrich, DOGM, SLC
MSHA



Shift Seal

mine fan shall be repaired promptly and any unusual variance in the mine ventilating pressure shall be investigated immediately.

(e) While persons are underground, a responsible person designated by the operator always shall be at a surface location where each main mine fan signal can be seen or heard.

(f) The area within 100 feet of main mine fans and intake air openings shall be kept free of combustible material, unless alternative precautions necessary to provide protection from fire or other products of combustion are approved in the ventilation plan [see 75.371(c)].

(g) If multiple mine fans are used, the mine ventilation system shall be designed and maintained to eliminate areas without air movement.

(h) Any atmospheric monitoring system operated during fan stoppages shall be intrinsically safe.

75.312 Main mine fan examinations and records.

(a) Each main mine fan and its associated components, including devices for measuring or recording mine ventilation pressure, shall be examined for proper operation by a person designated by the operator at least once each day that the fan operates unless a functioning main mine fan monitoring system is used.

(b)(1) If a main mine fan monitoring system is used, a person designated by the operator shall, at least every 7 days—

(i) Test the monitoring system for proper operation, and

(ii) Examine each main mine fan and its associated components.

(2) If the monitoring system malfunctions, the malfunction shall be corrected, or paragraph (a) of this section shall apply.

(c) At least every 31 days, the automatic fan signal

device for each main mine fan shall be tested for the fan.

(d) At least every 31 days, automatic fan signal devices in multiple main mine fan systems shall be tested for stopping the fan.

(e) Circular main mine fan pressure charts shall be changed before the beginning of each revolution.

(f) Certification. Persons making examinations shall certify by initials and date at each location specified by the operator if examinations were made. Each certifier shall certify the main mine fan examined.

(g)(1) Recordkeeping. By the end of each shift in which the examination is made, persons making mine fan examinations shall record, in a book maintained for that purpose, uncorrected defects that affect the operation of the fan that are not corrected during that shift.

(2) At mines permitted to shut down under 75.311, if a pressure recording device is used, a record shall be made, in a book maintained for that purpose, of the time and fan pressure immediately before the fan is stopped, and after the fan is restarted, until the pressure stabilizes.

(3) By the end of the shift on which the automatic fan signal device or closing doors is completed, persons making examinations shall record the results in a book maintained for that purpose.

(h) Retention period. Records, including mine fan pressure, shall be retained at a surface location at the mine for at least 1 year and shall be available for inspection by authorized representatives of the mine and representatives of miners.

Steph

7/13

Attach This To The fine/fuel/combustible
letter we wrote to chuck

ⓑ

Do you want it attached to all
copies? or just ours?

Just our copy. Gave a copy
last Friday to chuck

was
ⓑ