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United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

To Jim/Joe
File ACT/015/025
copy to Joe, Tom
and Sandy

Sim

December 15, 1980

#7

Mr. Ron Daniels
Coordinator of Mined Land Development
Department of Natural Resources
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Dear Mr. Daniels:

Enclosed please find a copy(s) of on-site inspection report. The inspection was conducted within BEAR CREEK CANYON PORTAL MINE during the period of September 18, 1980.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Ehmett
Assistant Regional Director
Division of Inspection & Enforcement

RECEIVED

DEC 15 1980

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

REGION V ON-SITE INSPECTION REPORT

CO-OP MINING COMPANY
BEAR CREEK CANYON PORTAL MINE
53 West Angelo Avenue
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115
(801) 748-5238

DATE: September 18, 1980
TIME: 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
WEATHER: Clear and warm
COUNTY AND STATE: Emery County, Utah
COMPANY OFFICIAL: Wendell Owen
STATE OFFICIAL: Joe Helfrich
OSM OFFICIAL: Larry Damrau
STATE PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/015/025
MSHA ID NUMBER: 42-00081
TYPE OF INSPECTION: Partial

GENERAL COMMENTS

A partial inspection of Bear Creek Canyon Portal Mine was conducted on September 18, 1980. Due to time restrictions, all enforcement actions were taken following another on-site inspection conducted on October 1, 1980. The State of Utah, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, initiated all enforcement actions taken under Notice of Violation No. 80-1-6-6.

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERIM REGULATIONS

717.11 General Obligations

The approved board order dated June 18, 1980 and the NPDES Permit No. UT-0023612 dated August 12, 1980 were available at the Trail Canyon mine-site. Inspection of the administrative authorizations and correspondence was extremely difficult due to the filing procedures utilized by the company.

Violation 1 of 6 of Notice of Violation 80-1-6-6 was issued by the State Regulatory Authority for failure to operate in accordance with approved plans. The remedial actions required that the company comply with stipulations set forth by the State Regulatory Authority and issued on March 12, 1980, prior to any mining activities.

717.12 Signs and Markers

A mine and permit identification sign was posted at the entrance to the mine property, during the time of the inspection.

717.14 Backfilling and Grading

Violation 2 of 6 of NOV 80-1-6-6 was issued by the State Regulatory Authority for failure to retain all earth, rock and other mineral non-waste

BEAR CREEK CANYON PORTAL MINE

717.14 Backfilling and Grading (cont'd)

materials on the solid portion of existing or new benches of road cuts, mine workings or other benches. Non-waste materials associated with the portal areas and the access road leading to the portal areas were deposited below the respective benches. No variance for such activity had been granted by the State Regulatory Authority.

717.17 Protection of the Hydrologic System

The portal, loadout, and materials storage areas, presently under construction exhibited no surface drainage control. Violation 3 of 6 of NOV 80-1-6-6 was issued by the State Regulatory Authority for failure to pass surface drainage from the disturbed area through a sedimentation pond. Construction operations had been initiated on the proposed sedimentation pond. Diversion and control of the surface drainage, from the areas addressed in the violation to the sedimentation pond, had not been initiated at the time of the inspection.

The access road leading from the lower pad area to the portal areas was under construction. The construction activities did not include surface drainage control measures to prevent contributions of additional suspended solids to streamflow, as required in the stipulations issued to the company under the board approval dated March 12, 1980. Violation 4 of 6 of NOV 80-1-6-6 was issued by the State Regulatory Authority for failure to maintain access and haulroads.

No culvert was present at the point where the main access or haulroad intercepts Bear Creek and all construction traffic forded the creek. Violation 5 of 6 of NOV 80-1-6-6 was issued by the State Regulatory Authority for fording a stream. After the September 18 inspection and before the October 1 inspection, the company installed a culvert on the area for which the violation was issued. Construction activities to insure the integrity of the structure need to be completed.

717.20 Topsoil Handling and Revegetation

Violation 6 of 6 of NOV 80-1-6-6 was issued by the State Regulatory Authority for failure to remove or segregate, stockpile or protect topsoil. According to the company, topsoil removed from the sedimentation pond area was utilized in the impoundment structure. There was no segregation evident between the material designated as "topsoil" and the material utilized as fill for the materials storage yard. No topsoil had been removed, prior to construction activities, associated with the access road and the portal areas.

No revegetation operation had taken place at the time of the inspection.


LARRY DAMRAU
RECLAMATION SPECIALIST