

April 16, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

RE: Co-op Mining Company
Bear Creek Canyon Mine
ACT/015/025, Folder #7
Emery County, Utah

On April 11, 1984 a partial inspection of the Bear Creek Canyon Mine facilities was conducted by Ken Wyatt and Tom Wright, Field Specialists for the Division. Mel Coonrod of Co-op Mining Company accompanied these inspectors in the field. The purpose of this inspection was to familiarize Mr. Wright with this mining operation. The weather was clear and cool at this time.

At the upper most pad area the undisturbed diversion ditch at the base of the high wall was in need of maintenance work soon as the high wall continually sloughs material into this ditch. The undisturbed diversion in the vicinity of the scale house adjacent to the disturbed area berm was examined. It was noted that two breaches had been created in this berm allowing disturbed area runoff to flow into the undisturbed ditch. Notice of Violation #N84-7-3-1 was issued following this inspection. This violation reads as follows:

Notice of Violation No. 84-7-3-1, # 1 of 1

Nature of the Violation

Failure to maintain sediment control facilities. Failure to pass all surface drainage from the disturbed area through a sediment pond or treatment facility.

Provisions of the Regulations, Act or Permit Violated

UMC 817.42(a)(1)
UMC 817.43
UMC 817.45

Portion of the Operation to which Notice Applies

Berms and ditches (both undisturbed and disturbed) adjacent to the scale house area.

Remedial Action Required

Maintain sediment controls as needed.

Time for Abatement

One week no later than April 18, 1984.

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The Bear Creek bypass culvert installed west of the scale house was observed. This bypass system has not been backfilled and very little water was observed flowing through the culvert. A discussion was held with the operator as to the whether or not the culvert sections would be better joined to allow the creek to flow through the culvert prior to back filling. This work should be done in order to better stabilize the backfill material.

The disturbed area drainage in the vicinity of the crusher pad area was in need of some maintenance. Water from the upper pad flowing down past the crusher facility was observed flowing down the crusher pad access road. This runoff remained in the disturbed area however it was requested at this time that the ditch be better defined to channel disturbed area runoff into the culvert downspout as designed.

The sediment pond was examined and a layer of oil was observed on the surface of the pond. A discussion was held with the operator as to how to clean the oil from the pond. Mr. Coonrod indicated that he desired to clean the pond now instead of waiting until after it dried. Reasons for this were to work on upgrading the pond into compliance. A problem with the disposal of the sediments is encountered because the Trail Canyon Mine area is used for refuse disposal in which sediments excavated from the pond are proposed to be disposed of there. The use of the sediments for spreading out on the base of the coal stockpile pad was brought to the attention of the operator.

The main mine access road upgrading as ordered by the August 25, 1983 board Order was discussed. Mr. Coonrod indicated that Co-op should have no problem meeting the May 1st deadline for the final compliance with this board order.

Ken Wyatt 
Field Specialist

KW:re

cc: Wendell Owen, Co-op Mining Company
Jodie Merriman, OSM
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Mary Boucek, DOGM

Statistics:

Vehicle: EX49611, 448 miles
Per Diem: 1 person X 1 day 8.5 hours = \$54.13
Grant: A&E
85060