

File

0025

May 27, 1985

TO: Coal File, Inspection and Enforcement Folder

FROM: David Lof, Mining Field Specialist *DL 5/28/85*

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

A partial inspection was conducted at the above mentioned mine site on May 8, 1985.

Hiawatha Seam Portal, NOV N85-4-8-2, #1 of 2

This violation was issued on March 12, 1985, for the development of a pad for access to the Hiawatha seam. The operator was required to cease all activities on the pad and slopes affected by the pad development, immediately. In addition, the operator was required to submit complete plans to the Division for approval of the pad development by March 27, 1985.

On April 1, 1985 the Division received plans for the operators proposed development of the Hiawatha seam pad. On April 23, 1985 the Division sent the operator a letter directing the operator not to proceed with any additional activity in the Hiawatha seam except for; sealing the portal, regrading the pad area to the approximate original contour, and reseeding the area by May 17, 1985.

At the time of this inspection, I inspected the Hiawatha seam pad and portal. The pad itself is not very large, it is less than 1000 square feet in area. Excessive erosion has occurred on the downslope fill due to the mine water discharge associated with NOV N85-4-13-1. In a previous inspection memo, I had stated that there was an electrical cable going into the portal. Upon closer inspection of the "cable" I found that it is apparently some sort of water hose. The actual portal opening is not very large perhaps one and a half by five feet. Cool air was coming out of the portal and I could hear water dripping into a pool of water inside the portal. There was no activity taking place in the Hiawatha seam at the time of my inspection.

I discussed the rock slope down to the Hiawatha seam and development of the Hiawatha seam with two MSHA inspectors, who were on site at the time of my inspection. They indicated that the work on the rock slope had started around the beginning of the new year. They said that the operator had intercepted the old works and broken out the portal for ventilation purposes. They said that the operator has not conducted any activities within the Hiawatha seam proper, and that the old works in the Hiawatha seam are not very extensive.

I informed the MSHA inspectors of the Division's April 23, 1985 letter to the operator requiring the sealing of the portal. In addition, I told them that Co-op did not have a permit, or approval

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from the Division, to conduct any mining outside the Bear Canyon seam proper. Which means that they should not perform any work on the rock slope nor in the Hiawatha seam.

Mine Water Discharge, NOV N85-4-13-1

This violation was issued on April 23, 1985 for the operators discharging of mine water to the sediment pond without approval. The operator was required to stop discharging water from the mine immediately and to submit complete plans to the Division for the permitting of mine water discharge to the surface. Plans were due May 8, 1985.

During an inspection conducted on April 30, 1985, I found that water was still discharging from the mine at approximately 5 gallons per minute. On May 2, 1985, Cessation Order C85-4-4-1 was issued for the operators failure to abate Notice of Violation N85-4-13-1. The operator was required to comply with the remedial actions in the NOV (Part A) immediately.

On May 3, 1985, I received a phone call from Mel Coonrod, of Co-Op Mining Company, informing me that the mine water discharge had been disconnected, this conversation was followed up with a letter from the operator received May 9, 1985. At the time of my inspection, there was no discharge from the mine water pipe. Therefore, the Cessation Order was terminated, effective May 3, 1985, the date which Mr. Coonrod called to inform me that the mine water discharge had been disconnected.

On May 6, 1985, the Division received a letter from the operator stating that the water, which I had issued the NOV on, was spring water which Co-Op had requested a water right for, and will be using "in conjunction with mining irrigation and culinary purposes." The letter went on to say that if more detailed plans were required that Co-op would request an extension of 30 days at which time the plans would be submitted in their Technical Analysis response. The Division has granted the operator the thirty day extension until June 8, 1985 to submit complete plans to the Division for the permitting of the mine water discharge to the surface.

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Mine Identification Sign

The mine identification sign was properly posted at the blue gate as required.

re

cc: Donna Griffin, OSM
Mel Coonrod, Co-Op Mining Company
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
John Whitehead, DOGM

Statistics:

Vehicle: EX 49611, 498 miles
Per Diem: 1 person X 2 days 4 1/2 hours = \$95.90
Grant: A&E
0243Q-22-24