



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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ph jgl

INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: 9:00 AM, 17 December 1991 to
11:00 AM, 19 December 1991

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Co-Op Mining Company

Business Address: Post Office Box 1245, Huntington, Utah 84528

Mine Name: Bear Canyon Permit Number: ACT/015/025

Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface Other

County: Emery State: Utah

Company Official(s): Charles Reynolds (MEC/Co-Op)

State Official(s): Hugh Klein (DOGM)

Federal Official(s): N/A

Partial: Complete X Date of last Inspection: 27 November 1991

Weather Conditions: Overcast, cold (-3° to 0°C); intermittent snow

Acres: Permitted 1060 Disturbed 16 Regraded Seeded Bonded 16

Enforcement Action: NOV #91-40-2-2

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
1. PERMITS	(x)	()	()	(x)
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	(x)	()	()	(x)
3. TOPSOIL	(x)	()	()	(x)
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	(x)	()	()	()
b. DIVERSIONS	(x)	()	()	(x)
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	(x)	()	()	(x)
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	(x)	()	()	(x)
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	(x)	()	()	(x)
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	(x)	()	()	(x)
5. EXPLOSIVES	(x)	()	()	()
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE & SPOIL	(x)	()	()	(x)
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE	()	()	(x)	()
8. NONCOAL WASTE	(x)	()	()	(x)
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	(x)	()	()	()
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	(x)	()	()	()
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	(x)	()	()	()
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	(x)	()	()	()
13. REVEGETATION	(x)	()	()	()
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	(x)	()	()	(x)
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	(x)	()	()	()
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	(x)	()	()	()
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	(x)	()	()	(x)
c. SURFACING	(x)	()	()	()
d. MAINTENANCE	(x)	()	()	()
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	(x)	()	()	()
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES				
UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	(x)	()	()	(x)

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

General Comments

The field aspect of this inspection was preceded by an office review of the PAP. In addition, comments were gathered from other permitting staff members regarding the Bear Canyon PAP and/or on-site issues. Also included in this was my own review of the latest Bear Canyon PAP Hydrology section and coordinated oversight (with Tom Munson) of the underground drilling program.

At the outset of the field portion of the inspection, the mine records were checked. The availability and organization of the records was not what is required. This was soon remedied, however, as this has been the subject of some on-going concern, the need for better availability and organization was discussed with Charles Reynolds. He fully understood the nature of these concerns and communicated to me that he had only recently assumed responsibility for keeping the records. He also added that he would have everything under control in the near future.

Credentials were offered to Mr. Reynolds for inspection, however, he declined the opportunity.

What follows are the results of the inspection with comments in **bold** that relate to LSCI issues.

1)

The permit had been reviewed in the office and found to be in order. **Waiver letters for all dwellings on the Bear Canyon Permit Area had been included in the PAP.**

2)

Mine entry signs were observed to be prominently displayed with all the requisite information. An AVS check had previously been conducted by the undersigned during the August partial inspection with Henry Sauer.

3)

At the time of inspection, the topsoil storage pile near the scale house was observed to be in good order. The baseball field topsoil stockpile was also checked and found to be covered with grass. Given the season, much of the grass was brown. This should be expected. For the most part, the ground was frozen.

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4a)

Many reaches of Bear Creek were frozen. The Bear Creek diversion was inspected and observed to be functioning properly. **Energy dissipators had been positioned in regard to concerns about the mine water discharge. Recently however, the orientation of the mine water discharge has been changed making the need for the energy dissipators minimal. They have remained in place for the time being.**

4b)

All diversions were inspected. The culvert just inside of the entry gate in front of the mine superintendent's house was found to be clogged. Enforcement action was taken (NOV #91-40-2-1). Because the culvert was not on the required map, additional enforcement action was also necessary (NOV #91-40-2-2). It is believed that the culvert is C-13U.

Two culverts had recently been approved (C-8D and C-9D). Installation of C-9D had been completed, but C-8D has not been installed because the materials have not yet arrived.

Drainage on the road to the lamp house along with the associated ditches was observed to be in good order with no objects obstructing diversions.

4c)

Sediment Pond A appeared to be in good order with a frozen water surface. The level of this was estimated to be five to six feet below the sediment cleanout level. Sediment Pond B was also in good condition with only minimal water impounded. For information regarding the third quarter pond surveys, the reader is directed to the section on Surface and Groundwater Monitoring (4e).

4d)

Silt fences were inspected and found to be in good condition with no repair or replacement required. **The silt fence below the sediment pond diversions that had been noted in the last complete inspection had been removed as required in the last complete inspection report.**

4e)

Third quarter water monitoring had been reviewed in November and found to be out of compliance. At that time, enforcement action was taken (NOV #91-40-1-1). The

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aforementioned NOV was tied to an October inspection. Pond surveys were also reviewed at that time with no problems found.

During the course of the inspection and drilling observations, a number of groundwater related items were checked. Sump SBC-9 was inspected along with the water line transporting water to the UPDES discharge point 004 in Bear Creek. Just inside the fan portal this line has a totalizing flow meter. The meter was installed on 13 April 1991. The initial reading at the time of installation was about 21,000,000 gallons. At approximately noon on 17 December 1991, the meter read 36,918,000 gallons. The last groundwater item to be noted is the water flowing out of the fault at the rock tunnel. This is located between the East Bleeder and the Second East Panel. This area may be pillared in the near future. If this area is pillared, then monitoring this point would be impossible. *However, if the area is not to be pillared, then a water monitoring point should be established at this location as soon as possible with reporting frequency and parameters to be decided upon.*

4f)

During review of the third quarter water monitoring records, it was discovered that the operator had failed to enclose the DMR's. Harry Campbell of the State Division of Water Quality was contacted regarding this. He communicated that the sediment ponds had no discharge during the third quarter, but that the DMR for point 004 had been incomplete. Mr. Campbell went on to say that he had requested this information be resubmitted, but as of the date of our conversation (3 December 1991), nothing had been received. No further information is known at present.

6)

Sediment storage was observed to be neat, orderly and in accordance with the MRP.

8)

Noncoal waste (rockdust bags) were being burned in a controlled manner on the upper storage pad. As this method of noncoal waste disposal is not contained in the MRP as an approved method, the operator was instructed to follow the methods approved in the MRP. It was suggested that the plan be revised if necessary.

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14)

Subsidence surveys are done annually and are not yet due to the Division. The report is being finalized. As a courtesy, the operator did present some of the data for review upon request. This is noted because it had to be FAX'd to the mine.

16b)

Road drainage had been the subject of an NOV during the summer. This has been rectified except for the installation of C-8D, which was discussed above.

18)

The berm around the oil tanks remains in good order. A splash pad was constructed during the summer and prevents spilled fuels from draining onto the adjacent bare ground.

Additional Comments

At the time of the closeout, Charles Reynolds was informed of ongoing maintenance commitments, information pending submission to the Division, required NOV abatement dates, and pending NOV's. NOV #91-40-2-2 was written and served before completion of the closeout.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Bernie Freeman (OSM)

Wendell Owen (Co-Op)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature & Number: W. G. K. #40

Date:

23 December 1991