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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

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Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

Partial:\_\_\_ Complete: XXX Exploration:\_\_\_  
Inspection Date & Time: 2/17/99 / 8:00a.m.-1:00p.m.  
Date of Last Inspection: 1/29/99

Mine Name: Bear Canyon Mine County: Emery Permit Number: ACT/015/025 \*  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Co-Op Mining Company  
Business Address: P. O. Box 1245, Huntington, Utah 84528  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface\_\_\_ Prep. Plant\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_  
Company Official(s): Charles Reynolds, Marlo Peterson  
State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Sunny, mid 30's, some thawing later in day, high velocity canyon winds  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 1032.75 Disturbed- 24 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 24  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted-\_\_\_ Disturbed-\_\_\_ Regraded-\_\_\_ Seeded-\_\_\_ Bonded-\_\_\_  
Status: Exploration/ XXX Active/\_\_\_ Inactive/\_\_\_ Temporary Cessation/\_\_\_ Bond Forfeiture  
Reclamation (Phase I/Phase II/ Final Bond Release/\_\_\_ Liability\_\_\_ Year)

### REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

#### Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
  - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____(date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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(Continuation sheet)

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(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

Relative to the Wild Horse Ridge submittal, (ACT/015/025-98-1), which is a significant permit revision, various permits were examined to determine their adequacy. The following was determined:

- 1) The current UPDES permit is effective until April of 2003, and has been revised to reflect the additional discharge point at sediment pond "D" (located at portals of Bear Canyon #3 Mine). Mine water from BC#3 will be piped and discharged at the current discharge point for the #1 Mine (004A).
- 2) An amendment to the air quality order to increase the throughput to 1 million tons per year, plus allow for the additional haul road footage associated with the #3 and #4 Mines was submitted to the Utah DEQ/BAQ on 2/5/99.
- 3) The current DOGM permit for the Bear Canyon Mines expires on 11/2/2000.
- 4) The current SPCC plan will need to be amended to reflect additional fuel and lubricant storage at the shop area of the #3 and #4 Mines

4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The fourth quarter impoundment inspections and annual certification requirements were completed for ponds A, B, and C on December 28, 1998 by Mr. Charles Reynolds, P. E., and Environmental Coordinator at the site. There were no signs of hazardous or unstable conditions reported during those inspections; none were noted during today's complete inspection. Ponds containing water are frozen.

Pond A has sediment buildup where the inlet fans into the pond. Adequate sediment storage remains, based on the 1998 annual impoundment certification.

4d. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

Discharge monitoring reports for the site's various UPDES outfalls were reviewed for the months of October, November, and December, 1998. None of the three sediment ponds discharged during this period. Outfall 004A, (mine water discharge to Bear Creek), had flows ranging from 69,120 GPD to 128,160 GPD. All submittals were timely; no exceedances were noted.

The fourth quarter 1998 water monitoring report for the Bear Canyon mines was submitted to the DOGM SLO on 1/21/99.

8. NONCOAL WASTE

Two areas reflecting improper storing and handling of noncoal mine waste were noted in the tipple area. The first area was directly adjacent to the new tipple annex, where pieces

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of brattice, plastic buckets, wire, rock dust bags, and other flotsam were lying scattered on the ground in an area approximately ten feet by ten feet.

The other area was located approximately 65 feet NW of the first. This is the concrete pad which was retained post-reclamation of the old coal recovery bin. Employees use the area to sort through and recover usable items; a large amount of trash was also observed here, with little if any order present. The dimensions of the concrete pad are approximately ten feet by seventeen feet; various items including trash were widely scattered over this area.

The two areas are part of the coal quality enhancement process at the Mine, the noncoal waste material is picked off of the run-of-mine belt by employees as it goes by a particular area. Other waste is removed as the product crosses a screen inside the tipple.

Although this is an ongoing everyday procedure, it is felt that too much material was spread about in too large an area. The permittee was asked to pick up both areas in order to prevent an issue of "notice of violation".

Both areas were rechecked prior to the end of the inspection; both had been corrected. Two front end loader bucket loads of trash material were removed and placed in dumpsters.

It was suggested to Mr. Kevin Petersen, Surface Foreman, that a dumpster be placed in the tipple area so that employees will have a depository for trash.

It was also suggested to Mr. Reynolds that specific areas about the shop be designed, permitted and implemented for the storage of new and used containered lubricant products.

### 9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

During today's field inspection, a report of "a lot of shooting activity" was made known to me in the area between Mohrland and the former U.S. Fuel Company Mines at Hiawatha, Utah. This area is now permitted for mining to Hiawatha Coal Company, a sister company of Co-Op. This was reported to a DWR employee on the same day; same indicated that the shooting activity may be due to the shooting of coyotes, and not the poaching of deer.

### 14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL

The finalized, P. E. certified 1998 annual subsidence report, as surveyed and prepared by Mr. Dan Guy, P.E., of Blackhawk Engineering was reviewed. Same will be submitted in the 1998 annual report for the Bear Canyon #1 and #2 Mines.

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17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

The permittee has made a concerted effort to clean up coal accumulations in the areas of the reclaim belts associated with the truck loading area. As noted earlier, this is a requirement inherent in the MRP.

20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT

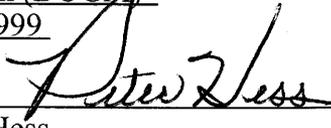
During today's inspection, high velocity canyon winds were prevalent. Coal was being discharged from a door located near the very top of the #3 stacking tube, and allowed to fall a distance of approximately 35 feet to the pad. A great deal of product was being allowed to be dispersed by the winds; this is in conflict with a requirement of the air quality approval order.

Mr. Reynolds indicated that the #3 stacking tube is scheduled to have repairs made.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Charles Reynolds (Co-Op) Henry Austin (OSM)  
Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGMA) Filed to: Price Field Office  
Date: February 26, 1999

Inspector's Signature:  #46  
Peter Hess