

November 14, 1985

TO: Coal File

FROM: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor/Reclamation Hydrologist *DWH*

RE: Genwal Coal Company, Inc., Crandall Canyon Mine,
ACT/015/032, #2 and #7, Emery County, Utah

A field visit was conducted on November 8, 1985 by Division representatives Susan Linner and Wayne Hedberg. The purpose of the visit was to meet with Office of Surface Mining (OSM) representatives Rick Holbrook, Ron Naten and Rick Lawton. Mr. Andy King of Genwal Coal Company met with the regulatory authorities at the mine site. A tour and inspection of the surface disturbances and associated mining facilities was conducted.

The upper water monitoring station which consists of a Parshall flume and a Steven's well water level recorder has been installed in Crandall Creek above the mine site. Mr. King had informed the Division that a beaver dam had backed up water to the point that this flume was almost completely submerged. Upon our field investigation, it was noted that the dam was now removed and the flume is functioning properly. The operator had contacted the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) earlier about the dam problem and consequently the dam has since been removed. It was noted that the recording chart had reached the end of the recording period. Mr. King stated that he would have the chart changed promptly. He stated the chart was changed on a monthly basis. (Past personal experience has shown that monthly charts should be checked weekly to assure proper function.)

One area of particular concern noted and mentioned to Mr. King during the inspection of the surface was in the diesel generator and fuel storage tank area. The berm which encompasses this area appeared to be somewhat marginal in a couple of spots. If a fuel spill did occur, there is a high likelihood that the spill would drain offsite downslope into Crandall Creek.

The undisturbed drainage ditch which has been excavated above the mine site was also visually inspected for adequacy. It appeared that there were a number of areas along its length that probably would not be adequate to meet the approved designs. Several pictures were taken at various locations along the ditch.

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Upon inspection of the sediment pond area, it seemed apparent that there was ample room to perform additional excavation to increase the pond volume without impacting the structural integrity of the pond embankment adjacent to the stream.

Upon termination of the surface inspection, Mr. King was hand delivered a letter which contained deficiencies identified by the technical review staff addressing a previous submission to three Notices of Violation which had been issued at the mine site.

Also discussed was the possibility of the offsite disposal of the sediments from the sedimentation pond which are currently being temporarily stored onsite. Mr. King was told that these materials could be removed from the site and disposed of at the Sinbad Landfill under the conditions which the Department of Health imposed for said disposal. Mr. King apparently had misinterpreted a previous Division letter which had been sent to him concerning this same subject.

Mr. King also hand delivered a letter to the Division which was to address the concerns which has been raised and discussed at a previous meeting at the Division offices on Wednesday, November 6, 1985. Mr. King was informed that this letter would be reviewed and that another draft letter was pending submission to him concerning the Division's permitting approach for the upgrading of the entire mine site complex. Mr. King stated that he had not addressed all of the specific issues that were discussed and listed during the November 6 meeting in the Division offices. He stated he did not feel that all of these items were meant to be discussed in the letter, but that he and Genwal had every intention of addressing all of those items before winter.

Also discussed was the status of the incidental boundary change request which the company has had on file with the Division for a number of weeks. Mr. King was informed that the U. S. Forest Service (USFS) had submitted an approval letter which was received on November 7. Mr. King asked Mr. Holbrook what the status of OSM's review was on the same request. Mr. Holbrook stated it was up to the state to handle now. Mr. Hedberg informed Mr. King that the decision on the incidental boundary change was pending a management's decision which would most likely be forthcoming within the next week to 10 days.

btb

cc: Lowell Braxton

Sue Linner

Dave Lof
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