



OGMCOAL DNR &lt;ogmcoal@utah.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: Revised Pond Inspections**

1 message

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**Daron Haddock** <daronhaddock@utah.gov>  
To: OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Wed, Jan 16, 2013 at 12:59 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kirk Nicholes** <[knicholes@altoncoal.com](mailto:knicholes@altoncoal.com)>

Date: Wed, Jan 16, 2013 at 12:49 PM

Subject: Revised Pond Inspections

To: "Karl Houskeeper ([karlhouskeeper@utah.gov](mailto:karlhouskeeper@utah.gov))" <[karlhouskeeper@utah.gov](mailto:karlhouskeeper@utah.gov)>Cc: "Daron Haddock ([daronhaddock@utah.gov](mailto:daronhaddock@utah.gov))" <[daronhaddock@utah.gov](mailto:daronhaddock@utah.gov)>

Hello Karl,

Attached are the revised pond inspections reports for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2012. Estimated sediment elevations have been included for each pond.

Thank You

Kirk Nicholes

Environmental Specialist

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Daron R. Haddock

Coal Program Manager

Utah Division of Oil, Gas &amp; Mining

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**2012 4th QT Spoils and Pond Inspection\_Revised.pdf**  
2728K

INSPECTION AND CERTIFIED REPORT ON EXCESS SPOIL PILE OR REFUSE PILE			
Permit Number	C/025/0005	Report Date	12/07/12
Mine Name	Coal Hollow Mine		
Company Name	Alton Coal Development, LLC		
Excess Spoil Pile or Refuse Pile Identification	Pile Name	Coal Hollow Mine Excess Spoil Pile	
	Pile Number		
	MSHA Mine ID Number	42-02519	
Inspection Date	7-Dec-12		
Inspected By	Dan W. Guy, P.E.		
Reason for Inspection - Quarterly Inspection (Annual, Quarterly or Other Periodic Inspections, Critical Installation, or Completion of Construction)		Attachments to Report? No	
<b>Field Evaluation</b>			
<i>No significant problems with the waste site were observed during the 3rd quarter 2012.</i>			
1. Foundation preparation, including the removal of all organic material and topsoil. Based on observation and discussion with the operator, the foundation preparation has been completed according to the approved plan.			
2. Placement of underdrains and protective filter systems. N/A - There are no underdrains or other filter systems associated with this pile.			
3. Installation of final surface drainage systems. The present surface drainage and diversion systems are operational and final. The pile has reached the elevation to allow positive drainage to Ditch 4 which flows to Sediment Pond No 3.			
4. Placement and compaction of fill materials. Placement and compaction of fill material appears to be in accordance with the approved plan, based on evaluation of compaction test results, site observation and discussion with the operator. Compaction tests ran on new spoils on 12/06/12 show compaction ranged from 91% to 98%.			
5. Final grading and revegetation of fill. N/A - The fill is in the early stage of development. The north, west and south outslopes of the pile have been been final graded to a slope of 3H:1V. A berm has been placed on the south edge to control runoff. Topsoil has been placed on the west end. Some topsoil has also been placed along Ditch 4 on the north side. Seeding was completed on 7 acres on the 26th, 27th and 28th of October, 2012. Quickgard, waddles and straw bales have			

6. Appearances of instability, structural weakness, and other hazardous conditions.

N/A - There were no appearances of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions noted during this inspection. Latest compaction tests show adequate compaction, with results ranging from 91% to 98%. The pile is being constructed at different levels to aid in the compaction.

7. Other Comments. Describe any changes in geomerty of the Excess Spoil/Refuse Pile structure, instrumentation, average and Minimum lifts of materials placed in the pile, elevations of active benches, total and remaining capacity of the structure, evidence of fires in the pile and abatment of such fires, volumes of materials placed in the structure during the year, and any other aspect of the structure affecting its stability or function which has occured during the reporting period.

As noted above, the pile is in the early stage of development. The diversion No. 4 carrying pile runoff to Sediment Pond No. 3 is in place. The pile appears stable and is being constructed in accordance with the approved plan. Subsoil and topsoil have been placed on the west end of the pile. Seven acres of the topsoiled area of the pile was seeded in late October 2012.

**Certification Statement**



I hereby certify that: I am experienced in the construction of earth and rock fills: I am qualified and authorized in the State of Utah to inspect and certify the condition and apperance of earth and rock fills in accordance with the certified and approved designs for this structure: that the fill structure has been maintained in accordance with approved design and meet or exceed the minimum design requirements under all applicable federal, state and local regulations: and, that inspections and inspection reports are made by myself, or under my direction and include any appearances of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions of the structure affecting stability.

**By: Dan W. Guy, Registered Professional Engineer, State of Utah**

(Full Name and Title)

Signature: Dan W. Guy Date: 12/7/12

IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION AND REPORT		
Permit Number	C/025/0005	12/7/2012
Mine Name	Coal Hollow Mine	
Company Name	Alton Coal Development, LLC	
Impoundment Identification	Impoundment Name	Pond 1
	Impoundment Number	Pond 1
	MSHA Mine ID Number	42-02519
IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION		
Inspection Date	7-Dec-12	
Inspected By	B. Kirk Nicholes (Accompanied by Dan W. Guy, P. E.)	
Reason for Inspection (Annual, Quarterly or Other Periodic Inspections, Critical Installation, or Completion of Construction)	Quarterly Inspection	
1. Describe any appearance of any instability, structural weakness, or any other hazardous condition. None Noted.		
Required for an impoundment which functions as a SEDIMENTATION POND.	2. Sediment storage capacity, including elevation of 60% and 100% sediment storage volumes, and estimated average elevation of existing sediment. Sediment Storage Capacity: 60 % Elevation: 6912.26 (1.26') 100% Elevation: 6913.03 (2.03')  The pond contained approximately 4' of water. The sediment marker is in place. Field observation estimate the sediment level to be approximatly 6909.5 elevation.	
	3. Principle and emergency spillway elevations. Principle and Emergency Spillway Elevation: 6920 feet (The outlet structure for Pond 1 serves as both the Principle and Emergency Spillways) Total volume of pond at Spillway: 3.1 Acre-Feet (Elev. 6920.00') Required runoff storage: 2.57 Acre-Feet	

4. **Field Information.** Provide current water elevation, whether pond is discharging, type and number of samples taken, monitoring/instrumentation information, inlet/outlet conditions or other related activities associated with the pond decanting, embankment erosion/repairs, monitoring information, vegetation on outlooses of embankments, etc.

The water level is approximately at elevation 6915.0. Rip-rap has been placed on both inlets. The outlet culvert, which serves as both principle and emergency outlet, is open and functional. There is no discharge from the pond. A berm has been installed on the upper side of the pond. It was also noted that there is a considerable amount of vegetation growing on the embankment.

5. **Field Evaluation.** Describe any changes in the geometry of the structure, average and maximum depths and elevations of impounded water, estimated sediment or slurry volume and remaining storage capacity, estimated volume of water impounded, and any other aspect of the impounding structure affecting its stability or function which has occurred during the reporting period.

The only change noted since the last inspection was a decrease in the water level.

**Certification Statement**

I hereby certify that: I am experienced in the construction of impoundments; I am qualified and authorized under the direction of a Registered Professional Engineer to inspect the condition and appearance of impoundments in accordance with the certified and approved designs for this structure; that the impoundment has been maintained in accordance with approved design and meet or exceed the minimum design requirements under all applicable federal, state and local regulations; and, that inspections and inspection reports are made by myself, or under my direction and include any appearances of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions of the structure affecting stability.

**By: B. Kirk Nicholes**

(Full Name and Title)

Signature: B. Kirk Nicholes Date: 12/2/12

IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION AND REPORT			
Permit Number	C/025/0005	Report Date	12/07/12
Mine Name	Coal Hollow Mine		
Company Name	Alton Coal Development, LLC		
Impoundment Identification	Impoundment Name	Pond 1B	
	Impoundment Number	Pond 1B	
	MSHA Mine ID Number	42-02519	
IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION			
Inspection Date	7-Dec-12		
Inspected By	B. Kirk Nicholes (Accompanied by Dan W. Guy, P. E.)		
Reason for Inspection <small>(Annual, Quarterly or Other Periodic Inspections, Critical Installation, or Completion of Construction)</small>	Quarterly Inspection.		
<p>1. Describe any appearance of any instability, structural weakness, or any other hazardous condition.</p> <p>N/A - No appearance of any instability, structural weakness or other hazardous condition was noted.</p>			
Required for an impoundment which functions as a SEDIMENTATION POND.	<p>2. Sediment storage capacity, including elevation of 60% and 100% sediment storage volumes, and estimated average elevation of existing sediment.</p> <p>Sediment Storage Capacity:  60 % Elevation: 6900.00 (6.00')  100% Elevation: 6902.08 (8.08')</p> <p>The bottom of the pond is only wet. The sediment marker is in place. Field observation estimate the sediment level to be approximatly 6892.3 elevation.</p>		
	<p>3. Principle and emergency spillway elevations.</p> <p>Principle and Emergency Spillway Elevation: 6906 feet (The outlet structure for Pond 1B serves as both the Principle and Emergency Spillways)</p> <p>Total volume of pond at Spillway: 0.894 Acre-Feet (Elev. 6906.45)</p> <p>Required runoff storage: 0.50 Acre-Feet</p>		

4. **Field Information.** Provide current water elevation, whether pond is discharging, type and number of samples taken, monitoring/instrumentation information, inlet/outlet conditions or other related activities associated with the pond decanting, embankment erosion/repairs, monitoring information, vegetation on out slopes of embankments, etc.

The water level is approximately at elevation 6894.3. There are 2 inlets to the pond - both have been rip-rapped. Both inlets appear stable and are functioning properly. The outlet is also open and functional.

5. **Field Evaluation.** Describe any changes in the geometry of the structure, average and maximum depths and elevations of impounded water, estimated sediment or slurry volume and remaining storage capacity, estimated volume of water impounded, and any other aspect of the impounding structure affecting its stability or function which has occurred during the reporting period.

The only noted change since the last inspection is a decrease in the water level.

**Certification Statement**

I hereby certify that: I am experienced in the construction of impoundments; I am qualified and authorized under the direction of a Registered Professional Engineer to inspect the condition and appearance of impoundments in accordance with the certified and approved designs for this structure; that the impoundment has been maintained in accordance with approved design and meet or exceed the minimum design requirements under all applicable federal, state and local regulations; and, that inspections and inspection reports are made by myself, or under my direction and include any appearances of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions of the structure affecting stability.

**By: B. Kirk Nicholes**

(Full Name and Title)

Signature: B. Kirk Nicholes Date: 12/7/12

IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION AND REPORT			
Permit Number	C/025/0005	Report Date	12/07/12
Mine Name	Coal Hollow Mine		
Company Name	Alton Coal Development, LLC		
Impoundment Identification	Impoundment Name	Pond 2	
	Impoundment Number	Pond 2	
	MSHA Mine ID Number	42-02519	
IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION			
Inspection Date	7-Dec-12		
Inspected By	B. Kirk Nicholes (Accompanied by Dan W. Guy, P. E.)		
Reason for Inspection (Annual, Quarterly or Other Periodic Inspections, Critical Installation, or Completion of Construction)		Quarterly Inspection.	
1. Describe any appearance of any instability, structural weakness, or any other hazardous condition.			
N/A - No appearance of any instability, structural weakness or other hazardous condition was noted.			
Required for an impoundment which functions as a SEDIMENTATION POND.	2. Sediment storage capacity, including elevation of 60% and 100% sediment storage volumes, and estimated average elevation of existing sediment.		
	<p>Sediment Storage Capacity:</p> <p>60 % Elevation: 6894.07 (3.07')</p> <p>100% Elevation: 6895.72 (4.72')</p> <p>The pond contained approximately 2.0' of water. The sediment marker is in place. Field observation estimate the sediment level to be approximatly 6889.3 elevation.</p>		
	3. Principle and emergency spillway elevations.		
	<p>Principle and Emergency Spillway Elevation: 6900 feet (The outlet structure for Pond 2 serves as both the Principle and Emergency Spillways)</p> <p>Total volume of pond at Spillway: 2.675 Acre-Feet (Elev. 6901.09')</p> <p>Required runoff storage: 1.70 Acre-Feet</p>		

4. **Field Information.** Provide current water elevation, whether pond is discharging, type and number of samples taken, monitoring/instrumentation information, inlet/outlet conditions or other related activities associated with the pond decanting, embankment erosion/repairs, monitoring information, vegetation on outslopes of embankments, etc.

The water level is approximately at elevation 6893.0. The single pond inlet is rip-rapped. The outlet is open and functional. No other problems were noted during the inspection.

5. **Field Evaluation.** Describe any changes in the geometry of the structure, average and maximum depths and elevations of impounded water, estimated sediment or slurry volume and remaining storage capacity, estimated volume of water impounded, and any other aspect of the impounding structure affecting its stability or function which has occurred during the reporting period.

There was no noted change in the pond since the last inspection.

**Certification Statement**

I hereby certify that: I am experienced in the construction of impoundments; I am qualified and authorized under the direction of a Registered Professional Engineer to inspect the condition and appearance of impoundments in accordance with the certified and approved designs for this structure; that the impoundment has been maintained in accordance with approved design and meet or exceed the minimum design requirements under all applicable federal, state and local regulations: and, that inspections and inspection reports are made by myself, or under my direction and include any appearances of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions of the structure affecting stability.

**By: B. Kirk Nicholes**

(Full Name and Title)

Signature: B. Kirk Nicholes Date: 12/2/12

IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION AND REPORT			
Permit Number	C/025/0005	Report Date 12/07/12	
Mine Name	Coal Hollow Mine		
Company Name	Alton Coal Development, LLC		
Impoundment Identification	Impoundment Name	Pond 3	
	Impoundment Number	Pond 3	
	MSHA Mine ID Number	42-02519	
IMPOUNDMENT INSPECTION			
Inspection Date	7-Dec-12		
Inspected By	B. Kirk Nicholes (Accompanied by Dan W. Guy, P. E.)		
Reason for Inspection (Annual, Quarterly or Other Periodic Inspections, Critical Installation, or Completion of Construction)	Quarterly Inspection.		
<p>1. Describe any appearance of any instability, structural weakness, or any other hazardous condition.</p> <p>No instability of the embankment or hazardous condition was noted during the inspection.</p>			
Required for an impoundment which functions as a SEDIMENTATION POND.	<p>2. Sediment storage capacity, including elevation of 60% and 100% sediment storage volumes, and estimated average elevation of existing sediment.</p> <p>Sediment Storage Capacity:  60 % Elevation: 6803.17 (2.17')  100% Elevation: 6803.82 (2.82')</p> <p>The pond contained approximately 1.5 ' of water. The sediment marker is in place. Field observation estimate the sediment level to be approximatly 6800.5 elevation.</p>		
	<p>3. Principle and emergency spillway elevations.</p> <p>Principle and Emergency Spillway Elevation: 6811 feet (The outlet structure for Pond 3 serves as both the Principle and Emergency Spillways)</p> <p>Total volume of pond at Spillway: 7.98 Acre-Feet (Elev. 6811.00')</p> <p>Required runoff storage: 6.72 Acre-Feet</p>		

4. **Field Information.** Provide current water elevation, whether pond is discharging, type and number of samples taken, monitoring/instrumentation information, inlet/outlet conditions or other related activities associated with the pond decanting, embankment erosion/repairs, monitoring information, vegetation on outlopes of embankments, etc.

The water level is approximately at elevation 6802.5. Permanent Inlet Ditch 4 has been installed and is functional. The open-channel spillway has been rebuilt and rip-rapped. No discharge.

5. **Field Evaluation.** Describe any changes in the geometry of the structure, average and maximum depths and elevations of impounded water, estimated sediment or slurry volume and remaining storage capacity, estimated volume of water impounded, and any other aspect of the impounding structure affecting its stability or function which has occurred during the reporting period.

There was no change noted in the pond since the last inspection.

**Certification Statement**

I hereby certify that: I am experienced in the construction of impoundments; I am qualified and authorized under the direction of a Registered Professional Engineer to inspect the condition and appearance of impoundments in accordance with the certified and approved designs for this structure; that the impoundment has been maintained in accordance with approved design and meet or exceed the minimum design requirements under all applicable federal, state and local regulations: and, that inspections and inspection reports are made by myself, or under my direction and include any appearances of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions of the structure affecting stability.

**By: B. Kirk Nicholes**

(Full Name and Title)

Signature: *B. Kirk Nicholes* Date: 12/7/12