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2013 Annual Report

1 message

Suzanne Steab < suzannesteab@utah.gov >
To: Kirk Nicholes < knicholes@altoncoal.com >

Mon, Dec 23, 2013 at 2:00 PM

2013 Coal Mining Annual Reports for Active and Inactive Coal Mines.

Attached:

Cover Letter
2013 Annual Report Form

Please submit the completed form by March 28, 2014.

Thank you.

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Suzanne Steab, Engineering Technician II
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

2 attachments



AR Cover Letter.pdf
67K



CoalHollow.pdf
1163K



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

December 12, 2013

All Coal Operators

Subject: 2013 Coal Mining Annual Reports for Active and Inactive Coal Mines

Dear Mine Operator:

Enclosed, please find an electronic Annual Report document. You should be able to Save, and Email the form. When completed, it must be submitted to the Division **electronically** either by emailing the form with the associated report documents, uploading on the Division ePermitting site or by saving the form to a CD.

The 2013 Annual Report form includes entries for regulatory requirements, such as annual impoundment certification; however, many Mining and Reclamation Plans include unique, mine-specific commitments that also must be reported annually. Depending on the status of your mine (active or inactive), some of the sections of the annual report may not apply or may not require a response. Also, please be sure to submit the following items:

- 1) Raptor and archeology reports marked as confidential and in a separate folder marked confidential (R645-300-124.300);
- 2) Mine map identifying mining in 2013 as well as the mining proposed for the next five years [PE Certified] (R645-301-512 and R645-301-521); and
- 3) Notices of Proposed Mining sent to water conservancy districts and all owners and occupants of surface property above the underground workings (R645-301-525.700).

Please submit the completed form by March 28, 2014. If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5325.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock
Coal Program Manager

DRH/IC/ss

Print Form

Submit by Email

Reset Form

Annual Report

This Annual Report shows information the Division has for your mine. Submit the completed document and any additional information identified in the Appendices to the Division by the date specified in the cover letter. During a complete inspection an inspector will check and verify the information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Company Name	Alton Coal Development, LLC	Mine Name	Coal Hollow Mine
Permit Number	C/025/0005	Permit expiration Date	
Operator Name		Phone Number	
Mailing Address		Email	
City			
State		Zip Code	

DOGGM File Location or Annual Report Location

Excess Spoil Piles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	
Refuse Piles	<input type="checkbox"/> Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Required	
Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	
Other:		

OPERATOR COMMENTS

REVIEWER COMMENTS Met Requirements Did Not meet Requirements

COMMITMENTS AND CONDITIONS

The Permittee is responsible for ensuring annual technical commitments in the Mining and Reclamation Plan and conditions accepted with the permit are completed throughout the year. The Division has identified these commitments below and has provided space for you to report what you have done during the past year for each commitment. If additional written response is required, it should be filed as an attachment to this report.

Title: TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL SALVAGE

Objective: Monitor topsoil and subsoil salvage by suitability criteria and depth described in Appendix 2-1, Table 4-1.

Frequency: During operations

Status: Long term

Reports: Keep tally of volumes salvaged, stockpiled, live hauled.

Citation: MRP, Volume 1, Chapter 2, Section 231.100, and Appendix 2-1, pg. 4-2.

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: PREDATOR CONTROL

Objective: To effectively manage predators and increase the population of birds at the Alton lek.

Frequency: Annually

Status: Overdue, please provide locations of coyote control efforts.

Reports: Annual summary of work completed to date. Please include any reports from USDA Wildlife Services.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5 page 26

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: WILDLIFE AWARENESS PROGRAM

Objective: To provide protection for the resident wildlife and minimize impacts (collisions) from vehicles and heavy equipment.

Frequency: Continuous and as needed for new employees throughout the life of the mine.

Status: Overdue. Please provide written verification noting specific training on sage-grouse identification, seasonal patterns in sage-grouse development and movement and deer and elk observations and migratory patterns in the Alton area has been provided by sage grouse specialists (ACD, UDWR, UDOGM).

Reports: Annual, log of employee awareness meetings, road kills for deer, elk, sage grouse and domestic livestock from the mine site to highway 89.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, pages 3-54, 55.

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: WATER REPLACEMENT WELL

Objective: Alton Coal Development, LLC commits to having the water-replacement well (or other appropriate water replacement source as approved by the Division) drilled and developed before beginning overburden removal for Pits 13, 14 and 15.

Frequency: One time, when needed

Status: Well was drilled October of 2010, but its function as a water replacement well will not occur until overburden removal on pits 13, 14 and 15 occurs.

Reports: Report status of well and target date for overburden removal in annual report.

Citation: MRP, Volume 7, Chapter 7, Section 731.530, page 7-59

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: DEVELOPING THE HOYT'S RANCH CONNECTIVITY CORRIDOR

Objective: To reestablish connectivity between the Alton and near by Hoyt's Ranch sage grouse populations.

Frequency: Annual summary of work completed.

Status: Ongoing, radio collared birds have been using the corridor in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Reports: Annual summary in Annual report

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5 page 4

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: SAGE GROUSE CONSERVATION AREA

Objective: To protect and develop a 72 acre parcel of sage grouse habitat.

Frequency: Annual summary until complete

Status: Ongoing. The permittee has disked 40 acres as noted in the MRP and correspondence. The completed area needs to be surveyed for percent cover of sagebrush and species composition.

Reports: Annual summary of work in annual report.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5, page 13.

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: REDUCTION OF JUNIPER TREES WITHIN KEY HABITATS OF THE ALTON AREA.

Objective: To reduce raptor perches and increase sage grouse habitat.

Frequency: Annual summary of utilization for nesting and brood rearing.

Status: Ongoing, work completed in 2006.

Reports: Annual summary of utilization for nesting and brood rearing.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5, pages 7-10

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Did Not Meet Requirements Met Requirements

Title: LEK MANAGEMENT

Objective: To attract birds to an alternate lek during active mining operations.

Frequency: Annually during spring

Status: Ongoing each spring during active mating periods.

Reports: Annual summary of work completed to date.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5, page 17

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Did Not Meet Requirements Met Requirements

Title: RECLAMATION TIMETABLE

Objective: To ensure timely reclamation

Frequency: Acreage to be reclaimed annually is itemized and shown on Dwg. 5-38

Status: in 2012, 7 acres reclaimed, 2013 55 acres to be reclaimed, 2014 59 acres to be reclaimed, 2015 51 acres to be reclaimed, 2016 60 acres to be reclaimed, 2017 173 acres to be reclaimed

Reports: Annual summary of work completed to date.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, page 56, Chapter 5, page 5-59.

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Did Not Meet Requirements Met Requirements

Title: SAMPLING FINAL GRADED, TOPSOILED SURFACE

Objective: To ensure a fertile growth medium.

Frequency: One composite sample every 2-5 acres based on variability.

Status: Contemporaneous with reclamation.

Reports: Laboratory analysis of available phosphorus, soluble potassium and nitrate-nitrogen.

Citation: MRP, Volume 1, Chapter 2, Section 231.300 and 243.

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

Title: Evaluate Mine Discharges for Impacts to Kanab Creek AVF

Objective: To evaluate discharges that may impact the designated AVF on Kanab Creek.

Frequency: Annually

Status: Ongoing

Reports: An annual finding should be placed in the Annual Report during operation and reclamation of any adverse impacts to the channel, dimunition of water quality and impacts to wildlife

Citation: Coal Hollow Permit, Attachment A, Special Condition #5

Operator Comments

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements

FUTURE COMMITMENTS AND CONDITIONS

The following commitments are not required for the current annual report year, but will be required by the permittee in the future as indicated by the "status" field. These commitments are included for information only, and do not currently require action. If you feel that the commitment is no longer relevant or needs to be revised, please contact the Division.

Title: REVIEW AND EVALUATE THE FACILITIES SPILL PLAN (APPENDIX 7-5)

Objective: To ensure the accuracy of the Facilities Spill Plan and to determine if additional or more effective spill prevention and control technology that is applicable to the facility must be added.

Frequency: At least once every five years.

Status: Pending, next review due 2014.

Reports: Completed Plan Review form submitted for incorporation into Appendix B of Appendix 7-5.

Citation: MRP, Volume 7, Chapter 7, Appendix 7-5, Section 2.2 PLAN REVIEW, page 2.

Title: RESTORATION OF LEK

Objective: To restore the original lek at the end of mining activities.

Frequency: Once

Status: Restoration of the lek will begin at final reclamation.

Reports: Annual summary of work completed after reclamation begins.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5, page 12.

Title: SAGE GROUSE MONITORING

Objective: To monitor the population densities at the Hoyt's ranch and Alton leks and migration patterns in between as long as the birds are living.

Frequency: Annual summary

Status: Ongoing, meet with the Division six months prior to mining through the lek to discuss minimizing impacts to sage grouse.

Reports: Annual Summary of work completed.

Citation: MRP, Volume 2, Chapter 3, Appendix 3-5, page 13.

OPERATOR COMMENTS (OPTIONAL)

REVIEWER COMMENTS



REPORTING OF OTHER TECHNICAL DATA

Please list other technical data or information that was not included in the form above, but is required under the approved plan, which must be periodically submitted to the Division.

Please list attachments:

Reviewer Comments

MAPS

Copies of mine maps, current and up-to-date, are to be provided to the Division as an attachment to this report in accordance with the requirements of R645-301-525.240. The map copies shall be made in accordance with 30 CFR 75.1200 as required by MSHA. Mine maps are not considered confidential.

Map Name	Map Number	Included		Confidential	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Annual Mine/ Reclamation Area Map		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reviewer Comments Met Requirements Did Not Meet Requirements