



OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Coal Hollow Inspection Report for the date 8/27/2015

Priscilla Burton <priscillaburton@utah.gov>

Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 1:48 PM

To: Kirk Nichols <knicholes@altoncoal.com>, OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Cc: Daron Haddock <daronhaddock@utah.gov>

Hello Kirk,

During my recent inspection of the Coal Hollow mine, I terminated the violation 16149 based upon the commitment from Dan Guy to provide written confirmation of adequacy of the construction where it differs from the design in Appendix 5-10. The attached inspection report outlines where the Appendix 5-10 and the installation differ and provides key areas for Dan Guy to address. After a meeting with the Coal Program Manager, I have been instructed to request that engineer's certified report include an as built drawing with cross section details of the slopes and the channel and with supporting calculations to show that the channel as-constructed will handle the 100 year 6 hour event as required by R645-301-742.323. I also encourage you to add any information that ACD's project engineer, Drew Christensen, can provide to document the stages of construction including field notes and photographs of the construction.

Priscilla Burton, MS, CPSSc
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[Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining](#)
Price Field Office
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 **Coal Hollow 8272015 Insp Rpt 5286.pdf**
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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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Division Director

Inspection Report

Permit Number:	C0250005
Inspection Type:	PARTIAL
Inspection Date:	Thursday, August 27, 2015
Start Date/Time:	8/27/2015 11:00:00 AM
End Date/Time:	8/27/2015 3:00:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Inspector: Priscilla Burton,

Weather: 75 F sunshine turning to rain

InspectionID Report Number: 5286

Accepted by: JHELFRIC
8/31/2015

Representatives Present During the Inspection:	
OGM	Priscilla Burton
Company	Kirk Nicholes
Company	Riley Anderson

Permittee: **ALTON COAL DEVELOPMENT LLC**
 Operator: **ALTON COAL DEVELOPMENT LLC**
 Site: **COAL HOLLOW**
 Address: **463 North 100 West, Suite 1, CEDAR CITY UT 84720**
 County: **KANE**
 Permit Type: **PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM**
 Permit Status: **ACTIVE**

Current Acreages

721.00	Total Permitted
342.00	Total Disturbed
	Phase I
	Phase II
	Phase III

Mineral Ownership

- Federal
- State
- County
- Fee
- Other

Types of Operations

- Underground
- Surface
- Loadout
- Processing
- Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

Ongoing removal of fill from the excess spoil pile has reduced the pile to half its original size. During the inspection, a dozer was removing topsoil from additional area to enlarge the excavation area. An excavator was loading haul trucks with spoil. Spoil was being dumped in HWT 2. Subsoil from Subsoil Pile #2 is being spread over Pit 20 and was being graded out with a dozer. The site was very wet and muddy from a storm the previous day. Pondered water has collected on compacted graded areas. I checked the reconstruction of Lower Robinson Creek against Appendix 5-10 designs.

Inspector's Signature: **Priscilla Burton**

Digitally signed by Priscilla Burton
 DN: cn=Priscilla Burton, o, ou,
 email=priscillaburton@utah.gov, c=US
 Date: 2015.08.31 13:27:43 -06'00'

Date: Friday, August 28, 2015

Priscilla Burton,
Inspector ID Number: 37

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an official statement of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining.
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REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - a. For COMPLETE inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check Not Applicable.
 - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Divison Orders, and amendments.

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Slides and Other Damage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Contemporaneous Reclamation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Backfilling And Grading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Subsidence Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

ACD was asked to have a hydrologist make an assessment of the volume of water entering HWT2 per permit condition item #2.

3. Topsoil

Weed control on topsoil piles was discussed. Topsoil pile #1 had been recently treated by chemical and mechanical mean, however the thistle plants had not fully died after chemical treatment and were re-blooming. A discussion should take place with the weed applicator concerning the appropriate chemical to use on bull thistle which was prevalent. There were many new bull thistle rosettes on Topsoil Pile #1. There is also two non-noxious thistle species on the pile, which should be distinguished from the weed species. See photo attached. Although not visited during this inspection, all other topsoil piles should be monitored for weeds and maintained weed-free. And the water tank area should be treated as well.

Topsoil removal from the excess spoil pile was ongoing. Removing topsoil from the edge of the safety berm was discussed. Topsoil removed earlier from the excess spoil pile was either live-hauled or placed on topsoil stockpile #4. Using the topsoil removed from the spoil pile quickly in 2015 reclamation is the proposed action for the material being removed and stockpiled on the spoils pile today.

The subsoil stockpiles previously photographed at the base of the excess spoils pile had been used. Subsoil Pile #2 is being utilized to provide cover over Pit 20.

4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions

DD#4 at the transition zone of Lower Robinson Creek was altered to allow trucks to negotiate the area during Robinson Creek construction. Several more rock loads are expected this week, after which DD#4 will be returned to the channel as designed in the MRP and along its length, DD4 will be cleared of obstructions created by the channel work.

Reclamation reconstruction of Robinson Creek is 99% completed. The work was inspected against the design found in App. 5-10. The engineering consultant who designed the channel reconstruction, Mr. Dan Guy, P.E., was at the site last week and found the construction to be adequate. I found the dimensions of the upper channel bottom to be larger than designed (which may have affected the rip rap placement depth). In the transition zone, the channel width met the design as did the rip rap extension on the side slopes. In the transition zone, the size of the rip rap could not be determined, due to the grout cover.

I observed several discrepancies with the installation as compared to the design, as follows:

In the upper channel, oversize rock created large voids between stones, exposing the soil beneath. I asked how the gradation of the rip rap was controlled. I received an explanation of how riprap is sorted, but not an answer to my question on quality control. Dan Guy or ACD's engineer should answer that question and confirm adequate rip rap depth in the upper channel.

In the mid channel, the grouting began approximately 100 feet above where it was specified on Dwg 5-20A, approximately at station 12:50. Grouting covered the minimum size (12 inch diameter) rock completely, allowing only larger boulders to rise above the smooth surface. The effect on the design should be evaluated.

In the transition zone, the rip rapped and grouted channel area widened to 31 ft for a length of 65 ft., but the design catch basin (2ft deep and 50 ft x 100 ft) could not be distinguished from the surrounding area. Grouting of the transition zone appears to have eliminated the basin and created a smooth run down the transition zone which ended in the double row of 1 ton hay bales placed at the bottom. The effect on the design should be evaluated.

The transition zone side slopes at cross section E-E and F-F should be as shown on the Cross sections 5-21A. (Mr. Nicholes agreed to survey the side slopes.)

Mr. Nicholes suggested that we discuss discrepancies in the construction with Mr. Guy. During a conference call with Mr. Guy, he was adamant that the work met or exceeded the design criteria for the 100 year/24 hour storm event and that he would certify the work, especially where it deviated from the design App. 5-10. With Mr Guy's certification as a stipulation, I terminated violation 16149, which was written for failure to follow the approved plan.

Prior to beginning construction work to tie the reconstructed channel in with the

undisturbed, the Permittee will notify the Division hydrologist.

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

Water truck records were reviewed to determine the amount of water removed from HWT 2 to date, for dust control. Mining was completed in HWT2 on 7/10/2015. Between 8/4/2014 and 8/19/2014, 68 loads (@ 9,000 gal/load) were pumped from HWT 2. (total 612,000 gal)
And, between 8/20/2015 to 8/25/2015 40 loads (@8,700 gal/load) were pumped from HWT 2 (348,000 gal) Therefore a total of 960,000 gallons has been pumped from HWT 2. The pond in HWT 2 is currently about 4 ft deep (half way up the portal opening) and has a surface area perhaps 200 ft x 200 ft.

6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches

Ongoing removal from the Excess spoil pile has reduced the pile to half its original size. A dozer was preparing additional area for excavation by topsoil removal during the inspection..

10. Slides and Other Damage

Alluvium laid back above HWT 2 remains unstable and wet. Four drainages into the HWT 2 were flowing swiftly. Gauging by the depth of the water in front of the nine foot high portals, HWT 2 has approximately 4 feet of ponded water in the bottom.

11. Contemporaneous Reclamation

Seedlings emerging on the alluvial slopes above Pit 10 can be seen as a green hue from the excess spoil pile. These slopes were seeded in June/July.

12. Backfilling And Grading

We discussed the reclamation practice of ripping compacted fill prior to placement of subsoil to get adequate drainage, to reduce compaction and to provide good contact between surfaces. This means that areas trafficed by haul trucks will be ripped with ripper shanks prior to placement of subsoil. Ponded water will be removed prior to subsoil placement and may need additional spoil or ripping to ensure adequate drainage from the area.

The Permittee is end-dumping from the west side of HWT 2. Stakes on the alluvial slopes mark the location to be covered by fill to achieve the next bond release goal.

22. Other

In an attempt to control erosion and minimize sedimentation at the water tank location, a stone pad (approximate dimensions 15 x 15 x 2 ft deep) has been created at the water tank for the purpose of washing down equipment.

Thistle in the water tank area must be controlled.































