



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

## Inspection Report

Permit Number:	<b>C0250005</b>
Inspection Type:	PARTIAL
Inspection Date:	Tuesday, July 19, 2016
Start Date/Time:	7/19/2016 9:00:00 AM
End Date/Time:	7/19/2016 12:30:00 PM
Last Inspection:	Monday, June 13, 2016

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

Inspector: Priscilla Burton,

Weather: sun 85F

InspectionID Report Number: 5582

Accepted by: JHELFRIC  
7/21/2016

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	<b>Total Permitted</b>
394.00	<b>Total Disturbed</b>
144.50	<b>Phase I</b>
	<b>Phase II</b>
	<b>Phase III</b>

**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:**

Observed operations at the North Lease Area 1 and at the South Area. Seven equipment operators were working at Area 1. Four equipment operators were working at Pit 10 and 9C. Coal is being produced from Pit 3 Area 1. Pit 1 Area 1 is at final contour. Pit 2 Area 1 is being contemporaneously reclaimed with overburden from Pit 4. The underground mine was idle. Drainage control improvements specified on Drawing 5-3D are under construction at the UG mine. Ponds 2 and 3 were bone dry.

**Inspector's Signature:**

Priscilla Burton,  
Inspector ID Number: 37

**Date** Wednesday, July 20, 2016



**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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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**

Pit 10 drainage control Task 5236 was approved July 1, 2016 (NOV 21167) NOV 21167 will be terminated upon receipt of certified copies.

UG mine facilities map Dwg 5-3B was approved June 27, 2016 (NOV 21165). NOV 21165 was terminated June 30, 2016.

Response to Task 5171 Coal Hollow Annual Report deficiencies is expected August 5, 2016.

Task 5203 Pit 10 reclamation plan is under review (NOV 21164).

NOV 21183 Borrow Area abatement is due August 2, 2016.

### **3. Topsoil**

At the South lease, Topsoil pile 4 has been fully utilized. There is a small pile of topsoil, perhaps 1,000 CY, remaining at the Excess Spoil pile. Mr. Anderson assured me that this topsoil will either be signed and bermed or used this week on Phase I bond release areas.

Subsoil and topsoil redistribution over HWT 2 area is in process, but was temporarily halted due to wet substrate. There is 87,397 CY remaining in Subsoil Pile #2. (It was surveyed very recently.)

At the North Lease: the topsoil pile contains 70,289 CY (surveyed 5/11/2016). The subsoil pile contained 23,245 CY, surveyed 6/8/2016. An active subsoil pile is located along Ditch 5 for placement on Pit 2. The volume of this subsoil is not included in the subsoil pile survey.

#### **4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions**

Area 1 DD7 diversion needs maintenance. We discussed whether drainage diversions in Area 1 need to remain in place at reclamation. Upon my return to the office, I discussed the matter with the Division hydrologist who stated that the diversion did need to remain in place for two years following reclamation, to control run off from the reclaimed disturbed area.

Pit 10 drainage diversions have been surveyed in along the south pit wall.

#### **4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments**

Pond 3 is bone dry, even the decant pipe inlet is exposed. The Permittee will take this opportunity to clean out sediment and repair the DD4 inlet. At my request, Mr. Anderson will also take this opportunity to ensure that the Pit 10 pipes are installed according to design. One pipe currently does not extend into the geotextile/riprap zone.

#### **4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures**

Culvert C2 is installed between the South Haul Road and the relocated County Road in Area 1. Drainage from D9 is treated with excelsior logs. D9 drainage reports to a down drain above C2 which is protected by a trash rack and surrounded by straw bales. On the inlet side of C2, flow into the culvert is treated at the disturbed area boundary with excelsior logs.

#### **5. Explosives**

North Private Lease blast #3 (NPL #3) took place in Pit 3 coal on July 7, 2016. This was the 53rd blast at the mine to date.

#### **6. Disposal of Excess Spoil, Fills, Benches**

The excess spoil pile has been leveled and was surveyed at an elevation of 6,834 ft. on June 27, 2016. The pile is approximately 15 feet above DD4 at the north end. The entire 32 acre foot print of the pile has been smoothed out. (MRP p. 5-45, dated 1/14//2014 provides the acreage). There was no activity at the Excess Spoil pile.

#### **9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues**

Kirk Nichols and Dr. Stephen Peterson recently conducted a sagegrouse survey. They saw about six hens with chicks.

A contractor (Kevin Heaton) has sprayed musk thistle on operational and reclamation areas, including the topsoil piles. The chemical used was not readily known.

#### **10. Slides and Other Damage**

Pit 9c alluvium is sloughing. Pit 10 MSHA 1st bench has sloughed in the SE corner of the Pit..

#### **11. Contemporaneous Reclamation**

Area 1: Pit 1 is at AOC and has subsoil placed.

South Lease: Topsoil from the Excess Spoil pile will be placed on the reclaimed haul road along the south fence to the spoil pile and at other Phase 1 locations in the South Lease.

#### **12. Backfilling And Grading**

Area 1 Pit 2 is being backfilled with overburden from Pit 4. The PC 2000, the D11 dozer and two haul trucks were working to fill Pit 2.

South Lease: The floor of Pit 10 is being excavated to create a larger sump. The shale is being transported to fill pit 9c above. The smaller track hoe, a front end loader, a dozer and one haul truck were being used to accomplish this.

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**22. Other**

The exploration well near C2 was eliminated by construction of the South Haul Road.

Topsoil to be moved or protected



Top of cutslope Elevation 6875 ft.

Excess spoil pile working surface elevation 6,834 ft.



A wide, flat landscape of dark brown, subsoiled soil under a cloudy sky. The foreground is dominated by dark, clumpy earth with visible tire tracks. The middle ground shows a flat expanse of similar soil leading to a distant treeline and rolling hills. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds, with some blue patches visible.

HWT 2 backfilled and subsoiled

Pit 9c Work

Flagged ditch



Pit 1  
backfilled

Pit 2 backfill  
in process

Pit 3 mining  
coal



PC 2000 loads Pit 4 overburden and trucks haul to Pit 2

Dozer pushing overburden from Pit 4

Pit 3 coal loaded into trucks



Installation of Pit 10  
pipes at sed. pond 3  
needs improvement

