

November 12, 1980

Memo to Coal File:



RE: Southern Utah Fuel Company
Convulsion Canyon Mine
ACT/041/002
Sevier County, Utah

On October 30, 1980, Division members Joseph C. Helfrich, Thomas L. Portle and Sandy Pruitt along with OSM official Eileen M. Doherty performed a complete inspection of the Convulsion Canyon Mine. They were accompanied by Kerry Frame, chief engineer for SUFCO.

There were two state violations issued at this time.

1) MC 717.14(a)(1) + (c)

Failure to retain all earth, rock and other mineral non-waste materials on the solid portion of existing or new benches of road cuts, mine workings or other benches.

2) MC 717.20(a)

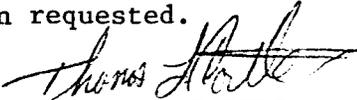
Failure to segregate, stockpile and protect topsoil from wind and water erosion or contaminants.

It was discovered at this time that the sign on the main access and haul road was deficient in that it did not contain the state permit number. Mr. Frame was informed of this and indicated that he would take care of this matter.

The sediment pond which was approved by the state on September 15, 1980, was under construction. However, there was some question about sidecasting from the access road to the sediment pond which resulted in both violations. The topsoil retained from the sediment pond was stored at the toe of the pond. Unfortunately, this area is directly below the area in which the sidecasting occurred resulting in topsoil contamination.

During the walking tour, Mr. Frame made us aware of a culvert extension at East Canyon. This 72 inch culvert is capable of handling the drainage from Mud Spring Canyon, East Canyon along with the mine water discharge. This culvert runs under the surface facility pad and empties at the toe of this pad just above the sediment pond. At this point, the 72 inch culvert is necked down to meet a 48 inch culvert through which these waters flow past the sediment pond and are discharged into the natural drainage thus bypassing the disturbed area.

At this time, all necessary permits were available. The NPDES permit had expired June 6, 1980, but a renewal had been requested.



THOMAS L. PORTLE
RECLAMATION OFFICER

TLP/btm

Statistics:

See Rilda Canyon memo dated November 10, 1980.