

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/041/002

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: OCTOBER 19, 1981

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
C/ 041 , 002 , Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

October 19, 1981

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

#7

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

The above-mentioned mine operation was given a partial inspection on September 23, 1981. Inspectors Sandy Pruitt, DOGM, and Ron Sassaman, OSM, were accompanied by Mike Davis and Kerry Frame of SUFCO for a brief tour of the mine operation.

Inspectors visited the borrow area below the minesite prior to the inspection. The topsoil stockpile was protected from loss with a berm. A small catchment appeared adequate as there was no evidence of spillage. Contour work is need to repair gullies larger than nine inches and prevent erosion prior to seeding. The topsoil stockpile and borrow area should be seeded following the first snowfall this year.

Of particular concern to the inspectors was the mine water discharge quality and the adequacy of the current monitoring program. As the flow in East Spring and Mud Spring above the operation is ephemeral and flow in Quitchupah Creek above the East Spring confluence is minimal, no samples above the mine water discharge point are regularly available for comparative analysis. Mine water is monitored at the discharge pipe in accordance to the NPDES requirements and frequently meets affluent limitations for TSS, oil and grease. It then flows through the bypass culvert to a settling pond discharging into the East Spring channel where evidence of oil, grease and sediment accumulation all the way down to the confluence with Quitchupah Creek is predominant. Inspectors sampled the mine water at three locations along the discharge route: at the NPDES discharge point; in East Spring above the confluence with Quitchupah; and, in Quitchupah below the confluence with East Spring, to determine if the quality (only TSS, TDS and turbidity could be analyzed) changed in flowing along the impacted channel. Mr. Frame sampled East Spring above the operation during a precipitation event on September 9. Sediment pond discharge was sampled at that time also. The results will be sent to our office. This compilation of data may be helpful in determining if the impacted stream channel is a source of water pollution resulting from the mine activity and if another monitoring station is necessary. Rechanneling of the mine water into the old mine works should be completed by the end of October and may prevent additional accumulations of oil, grease and sediment in the stream channel.

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The construction of a drain system for a steam cleaning facility adjacent to the shop was underway. Drainage from the wash bay will be diverted by culvert pass the fill slope and eventually to the sediment trap. The drainage from the toe of the fill to the sediment trap should be culverted by the end of October. SUFCO recently modified the sediment trap by covering the filter channels to minimize contamination from air-born fines. Now as the trap fills up, the overflow is not contained and will spill out of the trap. As the trap is located in a depression, the potential for untreated water running off the permit area is only likely during a large precipitation event, but it should be noted that the trap was nearly full at the time of this inspection.


SANDY PRUITT
RECLAMATION OFFICER

cc: Tom Emmett, OSM
Kerry Frame, SUFCO
Inspection Staff

SP/btm

Statistics:

See Knight Mine memo dated October 7, 1981
Grant: A & E