

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/041/002

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: JULY 27, 1982

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE

cc:

File in: C/041, 002, Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

July 27, 1982

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

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

A partial inspection was conducted at the above-mentioned minesite on July 9, 1982 by Ken Wyatt of the Division. He was accompanied by Kerry Frame of SUFCO. The purpose of this inspection was to examine compliance work done on the 5th North breakouts.

The two 5 North breakouts were done on June 1, 1982. During a June 7 inspection, it was observed that water had been discharged from the breakout openings. At the time of this inspection, no further discharges were evident.

Construction of the southernmost breakout had been concluded. The northern breakout was still being developed. SUFCO plans to have this work completed within one week.

SUFCO has recently been approved by the EPA to discharge mine water from the 5 North breakouts into the North Fork of Quitchupah Creek. Mr. Frame stated that a sump similar to the 2nd East area will be constructed to hold water for settling prior to discharge.

The possibility that SUFCO will mine underneath the North Fork of Quitchupah Creek was discussed with the operator. He stated that SUFCO planned to do this section of mining in 1982 as depicted on Exhibit 2 in Volume 7 of SUFCO's permanent MRP. More specific information may be needed in the MRP text regarding overburden depth and rock type, pillar sizing and design and other measures needed to insure against subsidence of the stream bed. This concern is briefly discussed on page 4 of the subsidence discussion in Volume 5 of SUFCO's MRP.

SUFCO is planning to conduct an experiment in conjunction with the U. S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Minerals Management Service (MMS). This experiment would involve secondary mining underneath the canyon rims in the 3 North area south of the 3rd East breakouts. Currently, the USFS and MMS policy's do not allow secondary mining under canyon rims.

Mine water was not being discharged at the time of this inspection. However, data for the months of May and June were examined. Since the construction of the underground sump in the 2nd East area, Total Suspended Solid (TSS) levels were a maximum of 24 mg/l in four samples. It appears at

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this time that the construction of the underground sump has alleviated the TSS problem. Future monitoring of the mine water discharge will determine if this is true.

The crushed section of the 72-inch undisturbed bypass culvert that drains East Spring Canyon is to be repaired during the miner's vacation from July 19-31, 1982. New sections of culvert were observed on the parking pad (for details see Inspection Memo to Coal File dated April 16, 1982).

The sediment pond was discharging at the time of this inspection. The flow was a small trickle probably less than one gallon per minute. Mr. Frame stated that later this summer the sediment pond would be drained and examined for sediment content. The sediment trap just south of the mine office had been recently cleaned. Waste material removed from this sediment trap is dried and shipped out with the coal.

Revegetation of the sediment pond topsoil and the downslopes between the mine pad and the sediment pond are well established with yellow sweetclover (Melilotus officinalis). The topsoil stockpile also has an establishment of grasses.


KEN WYATT
FIELD SPECIALIST

cc: Tom Emmett, OSM
Kerry Frame, Southern Utah Fuel Company
Inspection Staff

KW/btb

Statistics:

See Knight Mine memo dated July 20, 1982
Grant: A & E