

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/041/002

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: JANUARY 21, 1983

Explanation:

INSPECTION Memo TO COAL FILE.

cc:

File in:
C/ 041 , 002 , Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

January 21, 1983

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

#7
RE: Southern Utah Fuel Company
Convulsion Canyon Mine
ACT/041/002
Sevier County, Utah

On January 11, 1983, DOGM Field Specialist Ken Wyatt conducted a partial inspection at the above-referenced minesite. Mike Davis of SUFCO accompanied this inspector on the field tour.

The purpose of this inspection was to examine the mine area for sources of TDS which have been out of compliance with NPDES standards in the sediment pond discharge for some time now. The status of the power pole raptor perches and the proposed coal storage facilities was also discussed.

Water samples were collected during the inspection at three points. The first was the concrete sediment trap influent at the point it discharges from the 10-inch mine yard drainage culvert. The second sample was collected directly above the sediment pond at the base of the 24-inch culvert that drains the sediment trap's effluents into the sediment pond. The third sample was the sediment pond discharge, NPDES point 002. These samples were analyzed for TDS by the Utah Department of Health Laboratory.

Results of these analyses indicated TDS levels of 520, 642, 644 mg/l for samples 1 through 3, respectively. An increase of 23 percent was observed between the sediment traps influent and effluent indicating a possible TDS source in the sediment trap's sediment. All three samples were within the NPDES standards of 650 mg/l.

The sediment trap receives quite a loading of wind blown coal fines due to its close proximity to the coal stockpile and truck loading area. Prevailing winds blow coal fines into the sediment trap almost continually.

Mr. Davis stated that a spring was present below the shop/warehouse and that water from this spring is responsible for the continual flow through the mine yard and sediment control facilities. It was not possible to sample this water directly from the spring. The mine pads are situated in the Mesa Verde Sandstone group (lower Blackhawk Formation). This stratigraphic formation generally produces water with acceptable TDS levels. Therefore, there is reason to believe that the TDS source lies in the mine permit area.

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When the salt/sand storage facility is constructed, TDS levels should decrease if the source has been caused by salt contamination. If, however, levels do not decrease following the salt storage area installation, then other measures may need to be implemented to locate and isolate the source of the problem. Possible measures are discussed in a letter dated January 21, 1983.

When the stoker coal storage area is constructed, the upper materials storage pad drainage will be connected via pipe into the 10-inch mine yard drainage culvert. Mr. Davis stated they were waiting for Forest Service/OSM approval for this construction to begin.

Another item of discussion was the status of the raptor protection for power poles on the SUFCO permit area. Division biologists had requested that this inspector obtain a schematic diagram used for the design of these perches. Mr. Davis indicated that all power poles on the permit area had been modified according to: Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power-Lines; The State of the Art in 1981. Mr. Davis stated he would prepare and forward a letter to the Division addressing the design of these raptor perches.

The raptor perch designs should be forthcoming as well as a response to DOGM hydrologists' concerns on the oil stoker coal facility as addressed in a letter dated December 14, 1982. These materials should be received by the Division in the near future.

No compliance problems were observed during this inspection.

KEN WYATT *Kw*
FIELD SPECIALIST

cc: Tom Ehmet, OSM
Kerry Frame, Southern Utah Fuel Company
Joe Helfrich, DOGM

KW/btb

Statistics:

See Emery Deep Mine memo dated January 21, 1983
Grant: A & E