

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/041/002

File Name: Internal

To: DOGM

From:

Person N/A

Company N/A

Date Sent: JULY 5, 1984

Explanation:

INSPECTION MEMO TO COAL FILE

cc:

File in: C/041, 002, Internal

Refer to:

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date _____ For additional information

File

July 5, 1984

Inspection Memo
to Coal File:

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

DATE: June 6, 1984
TIME: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
WEATHER: Warm, rain
COMPANY OFFICIALS: Kerry Frame
STATE OFFICIALS: Sandy Pruitt
ENFORCEMENT ACTION: None

Compliance With Permanent Performance Standards

UMC 771 et al Permits

All permits were available for inspection upon request as required. No new permits had been obtained during the second quarter of 1984 pending review of the permanent program permit application which will be completed upon resolution of the final reclamation plans.

UMC 817.11 Signs and Markers

The mine identification sign, topsoil marker and perimeter markers are clearly visible.

UMC 817.13-.15 Casing and Sealing of Exposed Underground Openings

The caved section above the material storage shed is still well barricaded and has not caved in any more. SUFCO should develop plans to permanently close off this underground opening.

UMC 817.21-.25 Topsoil

The topsoil stockpile is somewhat stable and is well vegetated.

UMC 817.41-.57 Hydrologic Balance

The drainage ditch at the south end of the parking lot has been lined with concrete to prevent water infiltration into an old slide area. The ditch is extended to minimize backup at the end of the road to the drainage diversion past the break in the road after the wash out from the spring.

File in:
 Confidential
 Shelf
 Expandable
Refer to Record No. 0007 Date 7-5-84
In C/ 041, 002, Internal
For additional information

File

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The drainage ditch at the south end of the parking lot has been lined with a conveyor belt to prevent water infiltration into an old slide area. The siltfence was extended to minimize backup at the end of this ditch. The undisturbed drainage diversion past the road to the substation was ripped again after the wash out from the break in culinary water pipeline this spring.

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The discharge pipe from the sediment trap was cleared of slide material to allow unobstructed flow into the sediment pond. The water level in the sediment pond had dropped about four feet since the last inspection. The pond was not discharging and no leaks were evident. The decant valve was examined. In opening the decant a film of oil was released into the pond indicating that the decant had not discharged since before the water level in the pond dropped. Therefore it appears that the water level in the sediment pond had dropped by evaporation or seepage into the ground.

An accumulation of suds was detected in the East Spring Canyon drainage. Kerry Frame sampled these suds for analyses of BOD and Phosphates. Since the suds were accumulated both above and below the mine site it did not appear to be mine related. Snow residue stockpiled by the trash pit is loaded onto the trash when hauled off site.

UMC 817.52 Hydrologic Balance Water Monitoring

The May 1984 water monitoring data was not available for this inspection. NPDES reports for the second quarter reported a six hour unanticipated (?) bypass on March 7, 1984 when SUFCO made repairs to the standpipe in the sediment pond. Three of four samples taken during the bypass exceeded the 002 discharge point standards for TDS and TSS. The water leaking through the standpipe which was sampled at the end of February, also contained an excessive TDS level. In a letter dated May 21, 1984 the State Department of Health requested that SUFCO make efforts to identify the source of the TDS and correct the problem by June 1, 1984. In a June 4, 1984 response SUFCO explained that the TDS violation was caused by the accumulation of salts by evaporation, since the pond had not discharged since August 1983. The salts, specifically sodium in the pond may come from the softened wash water draining out of the steam cleaner building, particularly when the water softener regenerates brine into the system to clear hard water deposits. SUFCO commits to route the regeneration brine into the sewer system in the future. It is not clear how SUFCO will modify their water system to distinguish water softener discharges of regeneration brine from the normally treated water. SUFCO will also monitor inflows into the sediment pond and check for stratification of TDS levels in the pond itself to determine if it is concentrating salt.

Mine water discharges at NPDES point 003 had excess TDS concentrations during the first quarter of 1984. April TDS values are in compliance. In the June 4, 1984 letter to State Health SUFCO requested a temporary variance for discharge point .003 with a TDS limit of 1500 (mg/l instead of 650 mg/l). They proposed to

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monitor the in mine groundwater on a quarterly basis. They will also monitor water quality in Quitchupah Creek more intensively, and conduct surveys to determine TDS impacts on macro invertebrate communities. This evaluation is expected to be completed by October.

UMC 817.97 Slides and Other Damage

Movement of the substation pad has slowed down with drying. Surveys have not detected any additional movement. SUFCO will install cement lined flanged steel pipes in place of the plastic pipeline to prevent breakage in the pipe or at the joints. They will also submit plans for the installation of Hilfaker Wall. The pipeline will be kept exposed until the wall is complete and the line replaced. SUFCO will remove the brattice cloth and reestablish the undisturbed drainage diversions upon completion.

Slides along the access/haul road have stabilized also. This years road repairs are near completion.

UMC 817.121-.126 Subsidence

Access to the subsidence cracks located above the five north entries near the coal lease boundary was made during the week before this inspection. Kerry Frame reported no change since his last visit in fall 1983. A 180 foot long rock escarpment 20 feet high and about 20 to 30 feet wide was pulled out approximately six feet and had dropped about 18 inches at its south end where it had not pulled out. The escarpment is at a point and may have caused a slide at the south end also. Due to the location of this surface crack relative to the mine works underground and the known fault zones it appears to be mine related. An inspection by the DOGM technical staff and pertinent Manti LaSal Forest Service representatives i.e., Sam Hotchkiss or Steve Robinson, will be arranged in the near future. At that time an attempt will be made to locate the subsidence cracks reported by Steve Robinson in fall of 1983.

Sandy Pruitt 
Mining Field Specialist

DL:re

cc: Jodie Merriman, OSM
Mike Davis, SUFCO
Joe Helfrich, DOGM
Sue Linner, DOGM

Statistics: See Genwal Mine Memo dated July 3, 1984
95220-10-12