

RE 7-28-87



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

John
File
Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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INSPECTION REPORT

INSPECTION DATE & TIME: 6-30-87
10:00 to 2:30

Permittee and/or Operators Name: Southern Utah Fuel
Business Address: P.O. Box P Salina, Ut 84654
Mine Name: Convulsion Canyon Permit Number: ACT/041/002
Type of Mining Activity: Underground Surface Other
County: Sevier
Company Official (s): Mike Davis
State Official(s): Holland Shepherd
Partial: Complete: Date of Last Inspection: 5-15-87
Weather Conditions: Sunny, hot, clear
Acreage: Permitted 6194.75 disturbed 27.79 Regraded 0 Seeded 0 Bonded 27.9
Enforcement Action: none

COMPLIANCE WITH PERMITS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

	YES	NO	N/A	COMMENTS
1. PERMITS	(X)	()	()	(X)
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	(X)	()	()	()
3. TOPSOIL	(X)	()	()	()
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. STREAM CHANNEL DIVERSIONS	(X)	()	()	()
b. DIVERSIONS	(X)	()	()	()
c. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	(X)	()	()	(X)
d. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	(X)	()	()	()
e. SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING	(X)	()	()	(X)
f. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	(X)	()	()	(X)
5. EXPLOSIVES	()	()	(X)	()
6. DISPOSAL OF DEVELOPMENT WASTE AND SPOIL	(X)	()	()	(X)
7. COAL PROCESSING WASTE	()	()	(X)	()
8. NONCOAL WASTE	(X)	()	()	()
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	(X)	()	()	()
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	()	()	(X)	()
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	()	()	(X)	()
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	()	()	(X)	()
13. REVEGETATION	()	()	(X)	()
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	(X)	()	()	(X)
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	(X)	()	()	()
16. ROADS				
a. CONSTRUCTION	()	()	(X)	()
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	(X)	()	()	()
c. SURFACING	(X)	()	()	()
d. MAINTENANCE	(X)	()	()	()
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	()	()	(X)	()
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES				
UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	(X)	()	()	()

INSPECTION REPORT
(continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/041/002

DATE OF INSPECTION June 30, 1987

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. Permits:

The state has issued Southern Utah Fuel Company a five year permit. According to Susan Linner, Permit Supervisor, the permit became effective the date of issuance 5-19-87. Any associated permit stipulations or permit conditions will have to be addressed within the allotted time frame relative to the above date.

4.c. Sediment Pond:

1. The operator's sediment pond is down approximately four feet. According to Mr. Davis, rainfall has been slight so far this summer and dry conditions are starting to develop at the mine site. The pond appeared very clear; the bottom was visible. Also the pond's resident salamander population appears to be thriving this summer.

2. According to Mr. Davis there has been no discharge from the pond since last fall. Conditions have been dry this year as compared to the previous year, and the reduction in the pond's level, indicated in my last report and this report, is due to evaporation.

3. Pond inspections are performed quarterly. The last one was performed 5-28-87. The operator is current through the 2nd quarter of 87. No problems were indicated on the operator's pond reports.

4. e. Surface and Groundwater Monitoring:

Surface and Groundwater monitoring data is complete through 1986. Monitoring is to be done June, August, and October of each year. Analysis for 1987 is not yet available.

4.f Effluent Limitations:

NPDES reports are current through April of 1987. Monitoring data for the discharge points is available through May of 1987. No discharges have been made from points 001 or 002, the upper portion of the bypass culvert and the sediment pond, respectively. Discharge point 003, located at the Quitcupah vent portal, has been discharging regularly all three months. According to the discharge monitoring reports, this discharge point averages, 1,575,360 mgd.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: John Kathmann, OSM; Mike Davis

Given to: Joe Helfrich, DOGM

Inspectors Signature and Number: Holland W. Shepherd Date: July 9, 1987

INSPECTION REPORT
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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/041/002

DATE OF INSPECTION June 30, 1987

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

6. Disposal of Development Waste and Spoil:

In last month's inspection report (5-15-87) I indicated that the operator has stockpiled a large mound of underground development waste by the trash storage facility. The material was being stored temporarily until it could be moved to the Salina landfill. I discovered that this type of disposal was approved in the operator's permit, but was in conflict with the state's mining code. I asked the operator at the time to amend the plan and do nothing with the material until further correspondence with the Division.

Approximately 3/4 of the material (according to the operator about 3,000 tons) had been removed from the site since my last inspection. According to Ken Payne, Sufco's General Manager, the material was taken to the Company's Salina coal yard. The material will be temporarily stored there until a site is permitted in the Convulsion Canyon area to permanently dispose of it. The material was taken from the site after a Division administrative decision was made to allow the operator to store the material at the Salina yard temporarily. The operator needed to remove the material from the mine area because of the lack of available space and congestion it was causing in the mine yard. The operator is in the process of formally submitting information dealing with the amount, temporary storage, and eventual permanent disposal of the material. The material is being tested for toxic and acid forming materials and coal content. The operator will also be submitting, by August 1, an amendment to the MRP addressing the construction of a waste disposal site.

In the past MSHA has allowed the operator to dispose of the bulk of this type of material in the mine, but recent MSHA directives have become more strict regarding the disposal of underground development wastes.

14. Subsidence:

According to Wess Sorenson, Sufco's Chief Engineer, the operator is contracting with a commercial company to perform the annual subsidence survey this year. The operator had previously contracted with the Forest Service for this type of fly over. This past year's data has been summarized in the operator's annual report. Mr. Sorenson indicated to me that no above normal subsidence had been detected this year.

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