

0016



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

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Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton  
Division Director

Partial:      Complete: XXX Exploration:     

Inspection Date & Time: 5/4/99 / 8:00A.M.-4:00P.M.

Date of Last Inspection: 4/17/99

Mine Name: SUFCO Mine County: Sevier Permit Number: ACT/041/002

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Canyon Fuel Company

Business Address: 397 South 800 West, Salina, Utah 84564

Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface      Prep. Plant      Other     

Company Official(s): Mike Davis

State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Cold, 30's, Windy, Snow Flurries

Existing Acreage: Permitted-17308.25 Disturbed-67.8 Regraded-0.5 Seeded-0.5 Bonded-67.8

Increased/Decreased: Permitted-     Disturbed-     Regraded-     Seeded-     Bonded-    

Status: Exploration/XXX Active/     Inactive/     Temporary Cessation/     Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (     Phase I/     Phase II/     Final Bond Release/     Liability      Year)

### REVIEW OF PERMIT PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

#### Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
  - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____ (date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/041/002

DATE OF INSPECTION: 5/4/99

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

Note: The site had received four inches of snow during the previous 24 hour period; flurries were occurring during most of today's inspection.

4b. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The first quarter impoundment inspections were conducted by Mike Davis on 3/1/99. There were no problems noted, nor any signs of instability or other hazards noted during Mr. Davis' 3/1/99 inspection. Pond embankments were snow covered this day.

The water elevation in the mine site sediment pond, as observed this day, was very close to flowing over the emergency spillway. Mr. Davis is aware that same needs to be sampled and decanted as soon as possible. Decant systems for both ponds are closed and locked.

4d. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING

The fourth quarter water monitoring report for the SUFCO permit area was submitted to the DOGM SLO on 1/14/99. Today's review of submitted data (as obtained from samples pulled during October and November, '98) did not reveal any problems with sampling frequency; no abnormal readings in water chemistry were observed. Cation/anion balances indicated percentages of error to be less than or equal to 1%.

Discharge monitoring reports for the sites UPDES discharge points were reviewed for the months of February and March '99. There were no exceedances reported for either month, with out falls occurring from 002A (mine site sediment pond) and 003A (Quitcupah Portals mine water discharge point). All reports were timely.

Biomonitoring requirements for the UPDES permit were completed during February, with 003A mine water discharge effluent being used as the test medium.

All test dilutions successfully passed the animal mortality rate.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The first quarter waste rock inspection for the roadside active disposal area was conducted by Mr. Davis on 3/1/99. There were no signs of instability, or other hazardous conditions noted. The inspection report was P.E. certified by Mr. Wes Sorensen, Manager of Technical Services. Same was forwarded to the DOGM SLO on 4/7/99.

As noted above, the waste rock area was snow covered this day. There has not been any activity here for several months, due to soft ground conditions.

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14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL

The aerial flyover for subsidence monitoring was conducted on 8/28/98.

The annual subsidence report for the site was submitted with the 1998 Annual Report, as received in the SLO on 3/31/99. Same was reviewed in the PFO on 4/2/99.

Submitted information was included as Appendix B, as prepared by Mr. John M. Black, Chief Surveyor.

The report discusses ten subsidence monitoring areas. Map 1, Subsidence Map, shows the surface control monuments, overburden contours, subsidence contours, surface tension cracks, a current outline of the mine, and a one year mining projection. Active mining in 1998 included the extraction of approximately two-thirds of the 12 Left 4 East longwall panel. Based on Map 1, a maximum deflection of five feet was reported in the mid-face area of this panel. Map 1 has been P. E. certified by Mr. Wes Sorensen.

In Mr. Black's report, a maximum subsidence deflection of seven feet has been reported relative to the entire SUFCO permit area. Mining heights vary from 8.5 to 12 feet, with overburden depths ranging to a maximum of 1,800 feet. This report is considered adequate by this individual.

Partial inspections conducted in the Duncan Mountain area of the SUFCO permit during September of 1998 and April of 1999, indicate that tension cracks which had formed and were observed in September had generally self-healed.

There have been no reports of areas (including stock watering ponds) which require mitigation due to the effects of mining induced subsidence, as of the date of this inspection report.

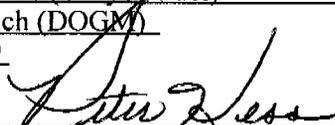
19. AVS CHECK

With the purchase of Canyon Fuel Companies' Mines by ARCH in the spring of 1998, new legal and financial information was submitted to the DOGM SLO as of 6/1/98. Same was approved and inserted as part of ACT/041/002-98E.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Mike Davis (Canyon Fuel) Henry Austin (OSM)  
Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM) Filed to: Price Field Office  
Date: May 10, 1999

Inspector's Signature:  #46  
Peter Hess