



0069

# U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING Mine Site Evaluation State Program



*McQuinn*  
2/04/2003

1. Permittee/Person <b>SOUTHERN UTAH FUEL CO.</b>		9. Permit Number <i>e-mail Pete</i> <b>UT-041-002</b> <i>Susan - Davis</i>	10. Permit Type <b>PP</b>
2. Address <b>397 SOUTH 800 WEST</b>		11. Field Visit Date <b>11/19/2003</b> mm - dd - yyyy	12. Purpose <b>O</b>
3. City <b>SALINA</b>	4. State <b>UT</b>	13. SRA Present <b>Y</b>	14. Permit Status <b>A</b>
5. Zip Code <b>84654</b>	6. Phone Number <b>(435) 529-7428</b>	15. Site Status <b>AP</b>	16. Facility Type <b>B</b>
7. Operator Name, if Different than Permittee		17. OSM Office # <b>140</b>	18. CCID #
8. Mine Name <b>CONVULSION CANYON /</b>		19. Land Code <b>F</b>	20. M.S.H.A ID # <b>42-00089</b>
		21. State Abrev. <b>UT</b>	22. County Name <b>SEVIER</b>
		23. AVS Permittee Entity ID Number <b>060111</b>	24. State Office

25. Hours	26. Signature Block	27. Reviewing Official:
<b>8.0</b> a. Permit Review	<i>Henry Austin</i> Signature: <b>12/3/03</b>	<i>James Fulton</i> Signature:
<b>6.0</b> b. Site Visit Time	Printed Name: <b>HENRY AUSTIN ID # 116</b>	Review Date: <b>12/03/03</b> mm - dd - yyyy
<b>3.0</b> c. Travel Time	Date: <b>12/03/2003</b>	Is Supplemental MSE Page Used Y/N <b>Y</b>
<b>2.0</b> d. Report Writing		

Permit Type — Item 10 IP = Interim Program, PP = Permanent Program, NP = No Permit

Purpose Type Codes Item 12

Oxx... Oversight	Rfx... Reclamation Fees	CCR... Citizen Complaint Referral (non site visit)
Axx... Assistance	Fxx... Federal Actions	CC... Citizen Complaint (initial site visit)
		CCF... Citizen Complaint Follow-up

Joint Inspection — Item 13 A joint inspection is when a state inspector accompanies an OSM inspector any time during the review of the mine site.

Permit Status — Item 14

A... Active: Coal mining and reclamation activities occurring or permitted but not yet disturbed.	AB... Abandoned: All surface and underground coal mining activities have ceased and operator has left the site without completing reclamation as defined in 30 CFR 840.11(g)
IN... Inactive (Permanent Program Permit): Phase II completed or Temporary Cessation of Operations. (Interim Program Permit) Coal mining completed and reclamation activities initiated.	AB1... Bond Forfeiture: Bond forfeiture officially in process or completed, and reclamation in progress or not yet commenced.
BR... Bond Release: Reclamation completed and State Regulatory Authority (RA) has released all of the bond (Phase III Release.)	AB2... Partially Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site where all bonds have been used to reclaim site, but site not reclaimed to Program standards.
	AB3... Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site that has been reclaimed to Program standards.
	NA... Not Applicable: When site is unpermitted.

Site Status Codes — Item 15

ND... No Disturbance: No coal mining and reclamation operations have been started.	MC... Mining Complete: No mining activity on site, site regraded and awaiting phase bond release.	NS... Non-Site Visit: Status of site not determined.
EX... Coal Exploration: Coal exploration operations have started and where coal mining operations have not begun.	TC... Temporary Cessation: The RA has granted cessation of mining pursuant to 30 CFR 816/817.131(b).	FP... Forfeiture Pending: The RA is pursuing actions to revoke the permit, collect the performance bond(s), and/or reclamation of forfeited site is in progress.
AP... Active Coal Producing: Coal surface mining activities are occurring.	P1... Phase I Release: At least Phase I bond release granted for entire permitted area. For interim permits, partial bond release.	FR... Forfeited and Reclaimed: Forfeiture reclamation completed.
AN... Active Non-Producing: Active non-producing facility such as tippie or preparation plant.	P2... Phase II Release: At least Phase II bond release for the entire permitted area.	FO... Abandoned Site: Abandoned site that is permitted but there is no bond.
NM... No Mining: The Permit Status is active, site is not in Temporary Cessation, no surface coal mining activity, and site not regraded.	P3... Phase III Release: Reclamation completed and the RA has released all bond.	WC... Wildcat: Coal mining and reclamation operations have or are taking place and the activity is not covered by the required permits from the RA.

Facility Type Codes — Item 16

A... Surface	D... Ancillary (Haulroad, Conveyor, and/or Rails)	H... Exploration Permits	L... Remaining site permitted under 30 CFR 785.25
B... Underground	E... Refuse and/or Impoundment	I... Notice of Intent to Explore	
C... Preparation Plant	F... Loading Facility and/or Tippie	J... Exempt 16 and 2/3	
	G... Stockpiles	K... Government Financed Construction Exemption	

## Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) Your Comments Are Important

The Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were established to receive comments from small businesses about Federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman will annually evaluate the enforcement activities and rate each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you are a small business (a business with 500 or fewer employees including those of affiliates) and wish to comment on the enforcement or compliance activities of OSM, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

# U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

## Mine Site Evaluation

State Program

Permittee/  
Person SOUTHERN UTAH FUEL

Permit  
Number UT-041-002

Field Visit  
Date 11/19/2003

Continuation Page

### 28. Performance Standard Categories

Codes: 1=Compliance, 2=Noncompliance, 3=Not Planned, 4=Not Started, 5=Noncompliance Identified Elsewhere, 6=Previously Cited

<p><b>A. Administrative</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Mining within Valid Permit</li> <li>2. ___ Mining within Bonded Area</li> <li>3. ___ Terms &amp; Conditions of Permit</li> <li>4. ___ Liability Insurance</li> <li>5. ___ Ownership and Control</li> <li>6. ___ Temporary Cessation</li> <li>7. ___ AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondent</li> <li>8. ___ AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Hydrologic Balance</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Drainage Control</li> <li>2. ___ Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> <li>3. ___ Siltation Structures</li> <li>4. ___ Discharge Structures</li> <li>5. ___ Diversions</li> <li>6. ___ Effluent Limits</li> <li>7. ___ Ground Water Monitoring</li> <li>8. ___ Surface Water Monitoring</li> <li>9. ___ Drainage -- Acid-Toxic Materials</li> <li>10. ___ Impoundments</li> <li>11. ___ Stream Buffer Zones</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Topsoil &amp; Subsoil</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Removal</li> <li>2. ___ Substitute Materials</li> <li>3. ___ Storage and Protection</li> <li>4. ___ Redistribution</li> </ol>	<p><b>D. Backfilling &amp; Grading</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Exposed Openings</li> <li>2. ___ Contemporaneous Reclamation</li> <li>3. ___ Approximate Original Contour</li> <li>4. ___ Highwall Elimination</li> <li>5. ___ Steep Slopes (includes downslope)</li> <li>6. ___ Handling of Acid &amp; Toxic Materials</li> <li>7. ___ Stabilization (rills and gullies)</li> </ol> <p><b>E. Excess Spoil Disposal</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Placement</li> <li>2. ___ Drainage Control</li> <li>3. ___ Surface Stabilization</li> <li>4. ___ Inspections &amp; Certifications</li> </ol> <p><b>F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Drainage Control</li> <li>2. ___ Surface Stabilization</li> <li>3. ___ Placement</li> <li>4. ___ Inspections and Certifications</li> <li>5. ___ Impounding Structures</li> </ol> <p><b>G. Use Of Explosives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Blaster Certification</li> <li>2. ___ Distance Prohibitions</li> <li>3. ___ Blast Survey/Schedule</li> <li>4. ___ Warnings &amp; Records</li> <li>5. ___ Control of Adverse Effects</li> </ol>	<p><b>H. 1 Subsidence Control Plan</b></p> <p><b>I. Roads</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Road Construction</li> <li>2. ___ Certification</li> <li>3. ___ Drainage</li> <li>4. ___ Surfacing and Maintenance</li> <li>5. ___ Reclamation</li> </ol> <p><b>J. Signs &amp; Markers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>1</u> Signs</li> <li>2. <u>1</u> Markers</li> </ol> <p><b>K. ___ Distance Prohibitions</b></p> <p><b>L. Revegetation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ___ Vegetative Cover</li> <li>2. ___ Timing</li> </ol> <p><b>M. ___ Postmining Land Use</b></p> <p><b>N. Other</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">General Performance Category</p> <p><b>H</b>    <u>1</u> 1) <u>Subsidence monitoring</u></p> <p>          ___    2) _____</p> <p>          ___    3) _____</p>
--	---	---

### Performance Standard Categories 30 CFR Counterpart

<p><b>A. Administrative.....(816/817.71-74)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Valid Permit.....773.11</li> <li>2. Mining within Bonded Area.....773.11</li> <li>3. Terms &amp; Conditions of Permit.....773.17</li> <li>4. Liability Insurance.....800.60</li> <li>5. Ownership and Control.....778.13</li> <li>6. Temporary Cessation.....842.11(e) &amp; 816/817.131</li> <li>7. AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondant.....870.15(b)</li> <li>8. AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay.....870.15(a)</li> </ol> <p><b>B. Hydrologic Balance.....(816/817.41-57)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage Control.....45</li> <li>2. Inspections &amp; Certifications.....49(a)(10)</li> <li>3. Siltation Structures.....46</li> <li>4. Discharge Structures.....47</li> <li>5. Diversions.....43</li> <li>6. Effluent Limits.....42</li> <li>7. Ground Water Monitoring.....41(c)</li> <li>8. Surface Water Monitoring.....41(e)</li> <li>9. Drainage--Acid - Toxic Materials.....41(f)</li> <li>10. Impoundments.....49</li> <li>11. Stream Buffer Zones.....57</li> </ol> <p><b>C. Topsoil &amp; Subsoil.....(816/817.22)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Removal.....22(a)</li> <li>2. Substitute Materials.....22(c)</li> <li>3. Storage and Protection.....22(c)</li> <li>4. Redistribution.....22(d)</li> </ol> <p><b>D. Backfilling &amp; Grading.....(816/817.95-107)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exposed Openings.....816/817.13, 14, 15, &amp; 823.11 &amp; 21</li> <li>2. Contemporaneous Reclamation.....100</li> <li>3. Approximate Original Contour.....102(a)(1)</li> <li>4. Highwall Elimination.....102(a)(2)</li> <li>5. Steep Slopes (includes downslope).....107</li> <li>6. Handling of Acid &amp; Toxic Materials.....102(c)</li> <li>7. Stabilization (rills and gullies).....95(b)</li> </ol>	<p><b>E. Excess Spoil Disposal.....(816/817.71-74)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Placement.....71(e)</li> <li>2. Drainage Control.....71(f)</li> <li>3. Surface Stabilization.....71(g)</li> <li>4. Inspections &amp; Certifications.....71(h)</li> </ol> <p><b>F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments) .....(816/817.81-84)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage Control.....83(a)</li> <li>2. Surface Stabilization.....83(b)</li> <li>3. Placement.....83(c)</li> <li>4. Inspections and Certifications.....83(d)</li> <li>5. Impounding Structures.....84</li> </ol> <p><b>G. Use of Explosives.....(816/817.61-68)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Blaster Certification.....61(c)</li> <li>2. Distance Prohibitions.....61(d)</li> <li>3. Blast Survey/Schedule.....62-64</li> <li>4. Warnings &amp; Records.....66 &amp; 68</li> <li>5. Control of Adverse Effects.....67</li> </ol> <p><b>H. Subsidence Control Plan.....(817.121-122)</b></p> <p><b>I. Roads.....(816/817.150-151)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Road Construction.....150(c)</li> <li>2. Certification.....151(a)</li> <li>3. Drainage.....150(b)-151(d)</li> <li>4. Surfacing and Maintenance.....150(e)-151(d)</li> <li>5. Reclamation.....150(f)</li> </ol> <p><b>J. Signs &amp; Markers .....(816/817.11)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signs.....11(a),(b),&amp;(c)</li> <li>2. Markers.....11(a),(b),(d),(e),&amp;(f)</li> </ol> <p><b>K. Distance Prohibitions.....(761.11)</b></p> <p><b>L. Revegetation.....(816/817.111-116)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vegetative Cover.....111 &amp; 116</li> <li>2. Timing.....113</li> </ol> <p><b>M. Postmining Land Use.....(816/817.133)</b></p>
---	---

December 3, 2003

Canyon Fuel Company  
397 South 800 West  
Salina, UT 84564

SUFCO Mine  
Partial inspection  
November 19, 2003

Participants:

Mike Davis & Quay Mecham, SUFCO  
Pete Hess, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGGM)  
Henry Austin & Howard Strand, Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

I participated in a partial inspection of the SUFCO Mine with the above on November 19, 2003. The inspection focused on evaluating the surface effects of subsidence on the surface areas within the East Fork of Box Canyon (East Fork), above longwall panel 3LPE development. We also briefly inspected the portal development and affected surface areas in Link Canyon, after we concluded work in the East Fork area and returned down Link Canyon. Weather conditions were clear and cold and ground conditions included patchy to solid snow cover of 3 inches to several inches. The ground and water surfaces in the East Fork were frozen and snow covered in most areas, minimal stream flow noted beneath the ice (probably impossible to accurately monitor flow under these frozen-snow covered conditions).

Prior to the inspection I discussed the potential subsidence zone and other related issues with DOGM (Pete Hess & the DOGM / OSM Evaluation Team), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM-George Tetrault & Jeff McKenzie), and the United States Forest Service (USFS-Dale Harber & Carter Reed). Upon Mr. Harber's recommendation, we notified him the morning of Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> that we intended to review the above areas in the field, and also notified him upon completion of our field work that afternoon, describing our field observations. I made follow up phone calls to the above BLM representatives and described our fieldwork observations.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Hess gave us a thorough briefing prior to the inspection describing current events, present mining location, and subsidence monitoring requirements for the areas of interest. Mr. Davis also provided us with copies of updated maps and narratives describing SUFCO's subsidence monitoring observations in this area to date, including those made November 10, 13 and 17. The maps and observations provided are included here by reference and not fully discussed. Basically, no subsidence cracks had been noted to date. Subsidence effects in the area of the Elusive Peacock Shelter were well documented on the maps and narrative noted above. SUFCO was meeting / exceeding subsidence monitoring requirements in this area.

SUFCO Mine. Pg.2

We entered the East Fork at approx. (subsidence monitoring) station EFB 6 and walked north and downstream past EFB 11 to essentially where the panel extraction began in this area. We divided into groups and made ground, sandstone outcrops, & stream surface (frozen) observations as we moved downstream. No subsidence cracks were noted on any of the vertical sandstone outcrops or anywhere along the stream channel bottom, and stream channel cross sections marked in the field. We documented one subsidence crack visible on basically a west facing, sloping sandstone outcrop approx. two hundred feet north and west of the Elusive Peacock Shelter. The crack was approx. ½" to 1" wide and approx. 20-30 feet long, apparently disappearing upslope into the colluvial soil materials. A photo was taken and provided to the inspection parties.

We photographed subsidence effects to the sandstone outcrops / overhangs in association with the Elusive Peacock Shelter. I provided my inspection photos to the inspection participants. The sandstone overhangs have been breaking off back toward the 2 sets of cribs placed in the shelter area, as first noted during the November 13 SUFCO subsidence monitoring, somewhat as SUFCO predicted they would. The outer set of cribs were in the rock rubble zone and it was not clearly apparent whether the inner set of cribs were still standing due to the rock fall rubble. No bumps, ground motions, or noise were evident during the inspection. The active longwall face was just south of the Elusive Peacock Shelter on November 17, and between EFB 11 and EFB 12 during the inspection. This concluded the subsidence monitoring evaluation in the East Fork.

As noted above, we briefly inspected affected areas in Link Canyon. The areas are marked, the intake portal entry gated-protected, and areas appeared orderly and well maintained. There was no standing-frozen water noted inby or outby the actual fenced intake portal entrance. This concluded the inspection.

OSM wishes to acknowledge and thank the above parties for information exchange and contribution of ideas prior to the inspection, they are appreciated. OSM also further acknowledges and thanks DOGM and SUFCO for accommodating OSM's inspection participation by rearranging their scheduled activities, and providing safe access to the East Fork areas.

Please address any questions concerning this inspection report to Henry Austin at [haustin@osmre.gov](mailto:haustin@osmre.gov) or to (303) 844-1400 x1466.