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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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by  
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## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial \_\_\_\_\_ Complete XXX Exploration \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection Date: 01/09/2003 / Time: 8:45 AM-2:40 PM  
Date of Last Inspection: 12/18/2002

Mine Name: SUFCA Mine County: Sevier Permit Number: C/041/002  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Canyon Fuel Company, LLC.  
Business Address: 397 South 800 West, Salina, Utah 84564  
Company Official(s): Mike Davis  
State Official(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Partly cloudy / temperature mid thirties to forties Fahrenheit  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface \_\_\_\_\_ Prep Plant \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Existing Acreage: Permitted 24632.95 Disturbed 27.364 Regraded \_\_\_\_\_ Seeded \_\_\_\_\_  
Status: Active

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

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - a. 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.
  - b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 ISSUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter- April, May, June)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation Sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/041/002

DATE OF INSPECTION: 01/09/2003

(COMMENTS ARE NUMBERED TO CORRESPOND WITH TOPICS LISTED ABOVE)

**1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE**

The current DOGM permit was renewed on May 30, 2002.

**3. TOPSOIL**

A new topsoil pile has been established adjacent to the subsoil pile along the County road pad at the waste rock site. The topsoil was collected from the area where the 300,000-gallon fire water tank / pump house was built directly north of the hillside substation. A protective vegetative cover needs to be established on the pile. Sediment control for this pile is provided by the silt fences located down gradient of the subsoil pile.

**4A. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: DIVERSIONS**

Many of the site's diversions were under frozen compacted snow. All of the culvert inlets/outlets and gratings over drop inlets appeared to be capable of functioning as designed.

**4B. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS**

The mine site sediment pond remains frozen, and the layer of ice in same is the reason the permittee feels the UPDES parameter exceedances occurred, as noted under paragraph **4E**.

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter impoundment inspections for the site were conducted by Mike Davis on December 31, 2002. There were no hazards reported by Mr. Davis. The inspection report for the mine site sediment pond noted that maintenance is needed on the weir. The repairs will be made in the spring of 2003. No hazards were visible this day relative to the mine site sediment pond.

As observed this day, the waste rock containment and its secondary pond were snow covered; no hazards were visible.

**4C. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES**

The areas that utilize other methods of sediment control were generally snow covered.

**4D. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: WATER MONITORING**

The site's current UPDES permit allows for three outfalls, with points 001A and 003A being mine water discharge points. A twenty-four inch poly pipe is the discharge structure (point 003A) from the mine sump to Quitchupah Creek at those portals that are named for the Creek. A volume of 4.5 million gallons per day is discharged through this outfall, classifying SUFCO as a major industrial site by the Utah Division of Water Quality.

Discharge monitoring reports for the months of October and November 2002 were reviewed. UPDES discharge points 001A and 002 did not flow during the two-month period. The Quitchupah portals discharge varied in volume from 3.825 mgpd to 4.391 mgpd during the same period. No exceedances were reported relative to the 003A effluent for the two-month period. All reports had been submitted in a timely fashion.

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation Sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/041/002

DATE OF INSPECTION: 01/09/2003

Laboratory analysis sheets for numerous monitoring points for the fourth quarter of 2002 were reviewed. Sampling had been performed during the months of October and November 2002. The analytical reports showed acceptable cation/anion balances, and there were no abnormal results noted for any of the required parameters.

The permittee submitted the required third quarter water monitoring information for the SUFCO permit area to the Division on December 27, 2002. Unfortunately, the permittee failed to notify the Division via E-mail that same was in the system and ready for review. This has since been corrected.

**4E. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The permittee's current UPDES permit (UT-0022918) remains in effect until April 30, 2006.

The mine site sediment pond (UPDES point 002A) discharged water during the month of December that exceeded the parameter for total suspended solids on two occasions and settleable solids on one occasion. The permittee attributed the exceedances to the fact that the pond is frozen and any incoming flows are carried across the ice to the discharge culvert without having an adequate amount of retention time for treatment. The permittee met the noncompliance reporting requirements of the permit by verbally notifying the Utah DEQ / Division of Water Quality verbally on December 24, 2002. This was within 24 hours of receiving the analytical results. Written notification was made to the same agency as well as the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining on December 30, 2002.

**7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS**

The permittee conducted the fourth quarter 2002 refuse pile inspection on December 31, 2002. Mr. Mike Davis performed the inspection, noting that no hazards were observed. Mr. Wes Sorensen, Utah registered professional engineer, placed the proper certification stamp on the inspection report, but failed to date the stamp.

As observed during today's field inspection, there were no obvious hazards. Much of the refuse facility is under snow. The end-dumped piles appeared to be free of noncoal waste materials. The pile will probably not see any activity until the soft ground dries up in early summer.

**18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS**

The permittee has been involved with the permitting of an additional power access in the Link Canyon area. The proposed plan is to open and rehabilitate the old underground works of the Link Canyon Mine, which was closed many decades ago. At the present time, ground water discharging from the mine has kept the riparian area of the Creek alive. This, plus other issues created by some environmental groups has required the need for the USFS to conduct an environmental assessment for the Link Canyon area. The review process of the amendment continues within the Division.

**INSPECTION REPORT**  
(Continuation Sheet)

PERMIT NUMBER: C/041/002

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The mine has four breakouts that serve various functions. These include the Quitchupah portals, which serve as the main mine water discharge point, the 4<sup>th</sup> East portals, which contain the main ventilation facilities for the mine, the South portals, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> East Portals. As noted above, the Link Canyon portals are currently being permitted. Mr. Davis also indicated that portals might be proposed sometime in the Muddy Creek area of the permit. All of the currently active breakouts were inspected. Heavy snow covered most of the disturbance. Access to the underground workings is barred through the installation of chain link gates, and rugged access. The areas are well defined by disturbed area perimeter markers. Sediment control methods that were visible appeared to be capable of functioning as designed.

Access to the lower Canyon was not possible this day due to drifted snow. This is the area that contains the spring collection field, the culinary water tank / pump house, and the leech field for wastewater treatment. There are also water and sewer lines as well as a high voltage power line. All of these support facilities are outside of the mine's permit area; as such, all have been permitted through special use permits approved by the USFS.

**21. BONDING AND INSURANCE**

The permittee's current general liability insurance remains in effect until July 31, 2003. The minimum insurance coverage for bodily injury and property damage, as required under R645-301-890.100 is provided for by the current policy. Coverage for damage caused by the use of explosives is also provided for.

Inspector's Signature:  Date: January 21, 2003  
Peter Hess #46

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

cc: James Fulton, OSM  
Ken May, Canyon Fuel  
Price Field office  
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