



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Representatives Present During the Inspection:

Steven Fluke Environmental Scientist II

Inspection Report

Table with 2 columns: Field (Permit Number, Inspection Type, etc.) and Value (C0410002, CITIZEN COMPLAINT, etc.)

Inspector: Steven Fluke, Environmental Scientist II

Weather: clear, slight breeze, cool ~60 deg. F

InspectionID Report Number: 767

Accepted by: whedberg
11/7/2005

Permittee: CANYON FUEL COMPANY LLC
Operator: CANYON FUEL COMPANY LLC
Site: SUFCO MINE
Address: 397 S 800 W, SALINA UT 84654
County: SEVIER
Permit Type: PERMANENT COAL PROGRAM
Permit Status: ACTIVE

Current Acreages

Table with 2 columns: Acreage and Category (Total Permitted, Total Disturbed, Phase I, Phase II, Phase III)

Mineral Ownership

- Checked: Federal, State
Unchecked: County, Fee, Other

Types of Operations

- Checked: Underground
Unchecked: Surface, Loadout, Processing, Reprocessing

Report summary and status for pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments:

Steve Fluke (DOGM) and Jeff Studenka (DWQ) visited Quitchupah Creek and its tributaries to investigate the source of reported coal fines in the creek. DWQ received an anonymous phone call on October 5 reporting that the creek was black. On the same day, DWQ collected a sample from the North Fork of Quitchupah Creek. The SUFCO Mine discharges approximately 3,000 gal/min to this creek and, subsequently, DWQ contacted the mine to determine if they had a release. The mine investigated and reported back that their discharge points appeared normal. On October 13, Jeff and I found coal fines within Quitchupah Ck below the confluence with the North Fork and within the North Fork. Quitchupah Ck flowing from the confluence of Water Hollow and Convulsion Canyon did not contain coal fines. Based on our inspection, it appears that the mine had released coal fines to the North Fork of Quitchupah Ck from their UPDES outfall 003. Photographs from the site visit can be found on the DOGM database.

Inspector's Signature

Date Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Steven Fluke, Environmental Scientist II

Inspector ID Number: 53

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

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 Not Applicable.
 - b. For PARTIAL inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by reference 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, Divison Orders, and amendments.

	Evaluated	Not Applicable	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Signs and Markers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Topsoil	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.a Hydrologic Balance: Diversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.c Hydrologic Balance: Other Sediment Control Measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explosives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Noncoal Waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Cessation of Operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.a Roads: Construction, Maintenance, Surfacing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16.b Roads: Drainage Controls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Other Transportation Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Support Facilities, Utility Installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS Check	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Air Quality Permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. Bonding and Insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.b Hydrologic Balance: Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

Flow from the sediment pond in Convulsion Canyon appeared clear at the time of the site visit. There was no sign of a recent release from the mine facility area.

4.d Hydrologic Balance: Water Monitoring

DWQ collected a sample from the North Fork of Quitchupah Ck above the confluence with Quitchupah Ck on October 5 in response to the anonymous report. Laboratory analysis of the sample showed a TSS concentration of 458.7 mg/L. All other parameters analyzed were within regulatory requirements where applicable. The sample was black from coal fines. A photograph of the sample and the creeks at the confluence are located on the DOGM database. An additional sample was collected from the North Fork at the time of the Oct. 13 site visit. The water contained some coal fines and was light gray in color. Results of the sample analysis are pending.

4.e Hydrologic Balance: Effluent Limitations

The mine collected a water sample for laboratory analysis from UPDES outfall 003 on October 5. The sample was within UPDES limits for all parameters analyzed. TSS was reported at <5mg/L. It appears that a release occurred from the outfall before the mine's sampling on October 5, but it has not been determined when the release occurred, for how long, and if there was more than one event.

7. Coal Mine Waste, Refuse Piles, Impoundments

No source of coal fines to the North Fork of Quitchupah Ck is known other than the SUFCO Mine UPDES outfall 003.

9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Issues

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources was contacted by SUFCO and DOGM on October 25 to inform them of the release of coal fines to the North Fork of Quitchupah Ck. No signs of fishkills or other wildlife related issues were observed at the time of the Oct 13 site visit.

15. Cessation of Operations

A cessation of operations has not been ordered by DOGM because there are no indications that a release has occurred since reported on Oct 5. Furthermore, the mine has been pro-active in monitoring their outfall since they were notified of the release.

22. Other

Follow-up - Based on the information obtained from the Oct 13 inspection and follow-up meetings with SUFCO, it appears that coal fines were released to the North Fork of Quitchupah Ck through UPDES outfall 003 prior to Oct 5. This release constitutes an off-site impact to surface-water quality as defined in R645-301-731.121 and -742.111. In addition, UPDES effluent limitations were exceeded for TSS which violates required performance standards as defined in R645-301-751 and -752. DOGM and DWQ are in discussions with SUFCO regarding how to prevent future coal fine releases from outfall 003.