JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

JOHN R. BAZA
Division Director

September 13, 2005

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT
7002 0510 0003 8603 3165

Mr. Robert Harris
West Desert Collectors
278 West Main
P.O. Box 102
Delta, Utah 84624

Subject: Proposed Assessment for Cessation Order MC-2005-02-04(1), West Desert Collectors, Tetla Septarian Mine, S/025/006, Kane County, Utah

Dear Mr. Harris:

The undersigned has been appointed by the Division of Oil, Gas & Mining as the Assessment Officer for assessing penalties under R647-7.

Enclosed is the proposed civil penalty assessment for the above referenced cessation order. The cessation order was issued by Division Inspector, Doug Jensen, on August 23, 2005. Rule R647-7-103 et. seq. has been utilized to formulate the proposed penalty for the violation as follows:

- MC-2005-02-04(1)– Violation 1 of 1 $1760

The enclosed worksheet specifically outlines how the violation was assessed.

By these rules, any written information which was submitted by you or your agent within fifteen (15) days of receipt of this Cessation Order has been considered in determining the facts surrounding the violation and the amount of penalty. If the violation has not been abated at the time of the proposed assessment, the assignment of good faith points cannot be made. If you feel that you are eligible for good faith, you should supply relevant information to the assessment officer within 15 days of the violation abatement date so that it can be factored into the final assessment.

Otherwise, under R647-7-106, there are two informal appeal options available to you:

1. If you wish to informally appeal the fact of the Cessation Order, you should file a written request for an Informal Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. This conference will be conducted by the Division Director or Associate Director. This Informal Conference is distinct from the Assessment Conference regarding the proposed penalty.

2. If you wish to review the proposed penalty assessment, you should file a written request for an Assessment Conference within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. If you are also requesting a review of the fact of violation, as noted in paragraph one, the assessment conference will be scheduled immediately following that review.

If a timely request for review is not made, the fact of the cessation order will stand, the proposed penalty(ies) will become final, and the penalty(ies) will be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the final assessment. Please remit payment to the Division, mail c/o Vickie Southwick.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock
Assessment Officer

Enclosure: Worksheets
cc: Vickie Southwick, Exec. Sec.
Vicki Bailey, Accounting
O:\M025-Kane\S0250006-TetlaSeptarian\non-compliance\proAssessment-CO.doc

WORKSHEET FOR ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS & MINING
Minerals Regulatory Program

COMPANY / MINE West Desert Collectors/ Tetla Septarian Mine PERMIT S/025/006

NOV / CO # MC-2005-02-04(1) VIOLATION 1 of 1

ASSESSMENT DATE September 13, 2005

ASSESSMENT OFFICER Daron R. Haddock

I. HISTORY (Max. 25 pts.) (R647–7-103.2.11)

A. Are there previous violations, which are not pending or vacated, which fall within three (3) years of today's date?

PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS	EFFECTIVE DATE	POINTS (1pt for NOV 5pts for CO)
none		

TOTAL HISTORY POINTS 0

II. SERIOUSNESS (Max 45pts) (R647–7-103.2.12)

NOTE: For assignment of points in Parts II and III, the following apply:

1. Based on facts supplied by the inspector, the Assessment Officer will determine within each category where the violation falls.

2. Beginning at the mid-point of the category, the Assessment Officer will adjust the points up or down, utilizing the inspector's and operator's statements as guiding documents.

Is this an EVENT (A) or Administrative (B) violation? Event
(assign points according to A or B)

A. EVENT VIOLATION (Max 45 pts.)

1. What is the event which the violated standard was designed to prevent?

2. What is the probability of the occurrence of the event which a violated standard was designed to prevent?

PROBABILITY	RANGE
None	0
Unlikely	1-9
Likely	10-19
Occurred	20

ASSIGN PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE POINTS 20

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** ***An Operator is required to obtain a permit from the Division of Oil Gas and Mining prior to conducting mining operations. Acreage outside the small mine permit area has been disturbed at this location without revising the permit to do so. While the Operator has a permit for a small mine, which allowed disturbance up to 5 acres, the operation has expanded to more than 8.75 acres. Disturbance has actually occurred.***

3. What is the extent of actual or potential damage? RANGE 0-25

In assigning points, consider the duration and extent of said damage or impact, in terms of area and impact on the public or environment.

ASSIGN DAMAGE POINTS 8

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** ***The inspector stated that the operator has disturbed approximately 3.75 acres of land that had not been approved for disturbance. The damage was the loss of vegetation and soil resources from the area disturbed. Further discussion with the inspector revealed that the damage is probably temporary. While the soil and vegetation have been disturbed, the site could still be reclaimed. Even though the damage is extensive over the property, it probably does not leave the site of disturbance. Damage is accessed in the lower 1/3 of the range.***

B. ADMINISTRATIVE VIOLATIONS (Max 25pts)

1. Is this a POTENTIAL or ACTUAL hindrance to enforcement? _____ RANGE 0-25

Assign points based on the extent to which enforcement is actually or potentially hindered by the violation.

ASSIGN HINDRANCE POINTS _____

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

***

TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS (A or B) 28

III. DEGREE OF FAULT (Max 30 pts.) (R647-7-103.2.13)

A. Was this an inadvertent violation which was unavoidable by the exercise of reasonable care? IF SO--NO NEGLIGENCE; or, was this a failure of a permittee to prevent the occurrence of a violation due to indifference lack of diligence, or lack of reasonable care, the failure to abate any violation due to the same or was economic gain realized by the permittee? IF SO--GREATER DEGREE OF FAULT THAN NEGLIGENCE.

No Negligence	0
Negligence	1-15
Greater Degree of Fault	16-30

STATE DEGREE OF NEGLIGENCE Negligence

ASSIGN NEGLIGENCE POINTS 8

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** ***The inspector indicated that the violation was the result of the Operator not taking reasonable care in keeping track of the acreage disturbed. The Operator had planned to reclaim some areas, but did not complete the reclamation and receive release before he had reimpacted some of the area. Approximately 3.75 acres of disturbance beyond that allowed by the small mine permit has occurred. This indicates indifference to the rules or misunderstanding of the rules. A prudent operator would understand the need to keep within the approved boundaries and obtain approval prior to disturbing an area. The Operator was negligent in this regard, thus the assignment of points in the middle part of the negligence range.***

IV. GOOD FAITH (Max 20 pts.) (R467-7-103.2.14)

(Either A or B) (Does not apply to violations requiring no abatement measures)

A. Did the operator have onsite, the resources necessary to achieve compliance of the violated standard within the permit area?
IF SO--EASY ABATEMENT

Easy Abatement Situation

- Immediate Compliance -11 to -20*
  (Immediately following the issuance of the NOV)
- Rapid Compliance -1 to -10
  (Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance 0
  (Operator complied within the abatement period required)

(Operator complied with condition and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

*Assign in upper of lower half of range depending on abatement occurring the 1st or 2nd half of abatement period.

B. Did the permittee not have the resources at hand to achieve compliance, or does the situation require the submission of plans prior to physical activity to achieve compliance?

IF SO--DIFFICULT ABATEMENT

Difficult Abatement Situation

- Rapid Compliance -11 to -20*
  (Permittee used diligence to abate the violation)
- Normal Compliance -1 to -10*
  (Operator complied within the abatement period required)
- Extended Compliance 0
  (Permittee took minimal actions for abatement to stay within the limits of the NOV or the violated standard of the plan submitted for abatement was incomplete)
  (Permittee complied with conditions and/or terms of approved Mining and Reclamation Plan)

EASY OR DIFFICULT ABATEMENT? Difficult

ASSIGN GOOD FAITH POINTS 0

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF POINTS:

*** ***The abatement has not yet been completed, so good faith points cannot be awarded at this time. This category will be looked at again after the abatement has been completed. Points will be awarded depending on how quickly the abatement is met.***

V. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY (R647-7-103.3)

NOTICE OF VIOLATION # **MC-05-02-04(1)**

I.	TOTAL HISTORY POINTS	0
II.	TOTAL SERIOUSNESS POINTS	28
III.	TOTAL NEGLIGENCE POINTS	8
IV.	TOTAL GOOD FAITH POINTS	-
	TOTAL ASSESSED POINTS	36

TOTAL ASSESSED FINE $ 1,760