

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:

Thunder Basin Coal Company, LLC
195 Hoadly Road
Wright, Wyoming

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

USNRC Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, Texas 76011-4005

REPORT NUMBER(S) 2004-001

3. DOCKET NUMBER(S)

030-19109

4. LICENSEE NUMBER(S)

49-19694-01

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION

November 17, 2004

LICENSEE:

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:



1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.



2. Previous violation(s) closed.



3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy, NUREG-1600, to exercise discretion, were satisfied.

_____ Non-Cited Violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s) and Corrective Action(s):



4. During this inspection certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.

(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Licensee's Statement of Corrective Actions for Item 4, above.

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

Title

Printed Name

Signature

Date

LICENSEE'S
REPRESENTATIVE

NRC INSPECTOR

James L. Thompson

/RA/

11/17/2004

Docket File Information
**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT
AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE Thunder Basin Coal Company, LLC REPORT NUMBER(S) 2004-001		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE USNRC Region IV	
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-19109	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) 49-19694-01	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION 11/17/2004	
6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED 87124	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS All		
SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION			
1. PROGRAM CODE(S) 03120	2. PRIORITY 5	3. LICENSEE CONTACT Mike Hannifan, RSO	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER (307) 939-1300
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main Office Inspection		Next Inspection Date: 11/17/2009	
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Office			
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Job Site			

PROGRAM SCOPE

This licensee has three coal mines where fixed nuclear gauges are stored and used: Coal Creek Mine, which is currently shut down; Black Thunder Mine, which is currently operating and is where all records and administrative personnel are located; and the North Rochelle Mine, where licensed material will be used/stored in the next few months.

There are 28 fixed gauges total, with 14 gauges located at each of the locations listed above (not including the North Rochelle Mine). The RSO performs all leak tests and shutter checks for these gauges; leak tests are required at 36 month intervals, and shutter checks at 6 month intervals. Security of these gauges is adequate. The gauges at Coal Creek Mine have been locked out since September 2000.

Physical inventories are performed along with shutter checks, and annual audits of the program are current. This licensee does not monitor their employees for radiation exposure.

It should also be noted that this licensee acquired 2 generally licensed fixed gauges with the purchase of a mine at North Rochelle: #7609LQ and #FT192, with 36 month leak test interval.