



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple - 3 Triad Center - Suite 350 - Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 - 801-538-5340

November 6, 1986

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
P402-459-410

Mr. Laine Adair
Castle Gate Coal Company
P.O. Box 449
Helper, Utah 85426

Dear Mr. Adair:

Re: Approval, MRP Amendment, BLM Approved Mine Sequence Change,
Number 5 Mine, Price River Complex, Castle Gate Coal Company,
ACT/007/004, Folder #4, Carbon County, Utah

The Division has completed its review of Castle Gate Coal Company's submittal (received October 6, 1986) concerning a requested change in mine sequence due to the unmineable conditions found in the areas adjacent to 6th, 7th and 8th East off the main dips.

The proposed plans are acceptable and approval is hereby granted to seal the Seventh East entries in order to utilize the air in other parts of the mine.

Thank you for your cooperation in this permitting matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor/
Reclamation Hydrologist

DMW:jvb
cc: L. Braxton
A. Klein
S. Linner
D. Darby

0851R-47

October 27, 1986

TO: File

FROM: David W. Darby, Geologist *DW*

RE: Mine Sequence Change #5 Mine, Castlegate Coal Company,
ACT/007/004, Folder No. 3 and 4, Carbon County, Utah

Summary and Conclusion

Castlegate Coal Company has requested a change in mine sequence due to unmineable conditions in the areas adjacent to 6th, 7th and 8th East off the mine dips. Rock partings, coal splits, sandstone channeling and oil seeps east of these established entries have caused adverse, hazardous and uneconomical mining conditions.

Due to these existing conditions Castle Gate Coal Company proposes to seal the 7th east entry and discontinue mining in that area.

Recommendations

Castlegate Coal Company has shown sufficient evidence to conform to recovery and utilization of coal reserves under UMC 817.59. No other adverse conditions should develop do to sealing of the 7th east entry.

I recommend that Castlegate Coal Company's mine change proposal be approved without conditions.

jvb

cc: W. Hedberg
S. Linner

0005R-50

*Locate Randy's
comments &
draft letter to
Operator (approval?)
letter
check to see if attaching*

MRP REVISION/NOV TRACKING FORM
(Revised)

10-16
 Sure, I'm not sure (both plans) if or what we may need in this regard. Perhaps only appropriate copies of updated mine seq. mass ?? Please bounce of eng/geol. + advise. TX W.

Wagner: This looks like a substantial change in mine sequencing for Castlegate. Please refer to appropriate persons.
~~Wagner~~
 WAW.

LPS 10/14

_____	_____	OTHER AGENCIES: (# of copies & date)
(Hydrology)	_____	OSM _____
(Wildlife/Veg.)	_____	USFS _____
(Engineering) <u>Harden</u>	<u>Yellen</u>	BLM _____
(Soils)	_____	Health _____
(Geology) <u>Darby/???</u>	<u>Shro</u>	History _____
_____	_____	H2O Rts _____
_____	_____	Wildlife _____
_____	_____	USFWS _____

DATES: (a) Initial Plan Received Oct 6/86
 Tech Review Due Oct 24/86
 Tech Review Complete _____
 DOGM Response Sent _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| (b) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ | (e) Optr. Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ |
| (c) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ | (f) Optr. Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ |
| (d) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ | (g) Cond'l. Approval _____
Stipulations Due _____
Stips Received _____
Final Approval _____ |
| | (h) MR-9 Received _____
MR-9 Acknowledged _____ |

COMMENTS: _____

NOTE (INSPECTORS): Please attach a copy of the NOV issued to the abatement plan when received from the operator.
 NOTE (REVIEWERS): Please prepare review comments in a format referencing the appropriate regulation or statute.

MRP REVISION/NOV TRACKING FORM
(Revised: 9/25/85)

Type of Proposal: COAL NONCOAL

Exploration
 NOV/CO Abatement, NOV # _____, Abatement Deadline _____
 MRP Revision
 MRP Amendment
 MR-1 Application (non-coal) Issuing Inspector _____

Title of Proposal: Mine Sequence Change, Sealing of Entries, Unmined
in 9th East Section Coal

Company name: Challe Gate Coal Co. Project/
Mine Name: No. 5 Mine (River Complex)

File # (PRO/ACT): _____ # New Acres (Fed/State/Fee): 1 1
(CEP/EXP/INA) Disturbed

Assigned Reviewers: _____ Review Time (hrs): _____ OTHER AGENCIES:
(# of copies & date)

(Hydrology) _____	OSM _____
(Wildlife/Veg.) _____	USFS _____
(Engineering) <u>Harden</u> _____	BLM _____
(Soils) _____	Health _____
(Geology) <u>Darby/???</u> _____	History _____

DATES: (a) Initial Plan Received Oct 6/86
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H2O Rts _____
Wildlife _____
USFWS _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| (b) Operator Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ | (e) Optr. Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
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Tech Review Due _____
Tech Review Complete _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ | (f) Optr. Resubmission _____
Tech Review Due _____
DOGM Response Sent _____ |
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MR-9 Acknowledged _____ |

COMMENTS: _____

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NOTE (REVIEWERS): Please prepare review comments in a format referencing the appropriate regulation or statute.



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District
Price River Resource Area
P. O. Drawer AB
Price, Utah 84501

RECEIVED
OCT 03 1986

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

3400
(SL-029093)
(U-058184)
(U-066)

OCT 2 1986

Mr. Laine Adair
Castle Gate Coal Company
P. O. Box 449
Helper, Utah 84526

Dear Mr. Adair:

The existing conditions of the Seventh East off Main Dips area of the Number Five Mine have been reviewed and an inspection has been made by the mining engineer of my staff responsible for the mine. It is concluded that the coal in the area of Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth East is not minable under existing conditions and practices. The rock partings render the coal unminable leaving less than 5 feet in any of the coal splits in Seventh East development. Other conditions of sandstone channeling and oil seeps render the situation even less minable.

Accordingly, approval is granted to seal the Seventh East entries with permanent type seals due to the unminable conditions in order to utilize the air in other parts of the mine.

If you have any questions please contact Allen Vance of my staff at 637-4584.

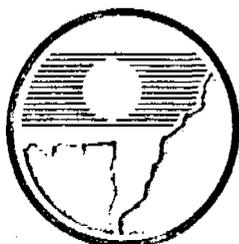
Sincerely yours,

James W. Dwyer
Area Manager

Reting

Enclosures (2)
1-Copy, 9/17/86 submittal
letter approved
2-Copy, 9/17/86 submittal.
mine map approved

cc:
MDO (U-065)(w/encl.)
USO (U-921)(w/encl.)
OSM, Denver (w/encl.)
DOGM, Salt Lake City (w/encl.) ✓



**CASTLE
GATE**
COAL COMPANY

SR/PR Rec'd SEP 19 1986

MINOR RECOMMENDATION TO
MINING PLAN TO BE FILED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

RECOMMENDED BY:
Allen & Vance
Mining Engineers

10/2/86
(Date)

APPROVED BY:
James W. Dwyer
Area Manager

10/2/86
(Date)

September 17, 1986

Leon Berggren
Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management
900 North 700 East
Price, Utah 84501

Subject: Request for permission to seal 7th East No. 5 Mine

Dear Mr. Berggren:

Castle Gate Coal Company has taken a close look at the reserves in the 7th East area of the No. 5 Mine and determined the area economically unmineable due to the known geologic complications in the area. (See figure 1)

The limits of the "D" seam reserve east of the main dips are defined by three (3) major geologic complications; rock partings, channel sandstone in the immediate roof, and oil seaps associated with the channel sandstone.

The rock partings (overbank deposits) vary in thickness from inches to several feet in very short distances and vary in consistency from bone to siltstone to sandstone. At times a 2-inch band of sandstone as hard as 30,000 p.s.i. will stop a 40 ton continuous miner. The partings also add to the ignition hazard due to sparking of the bits when cutting.

The channel sandstone in the immediate roof cause adverse roof conditions due to differential compaction and slicken sides at contact points with surrounding strata. The channels also scour out the coal deposit making seam height unpredictable and in some areas too low to mine. Due to the fluctuating height and the one to two feet of top rock, which falls when mining, these channels add to roof fall and ignition hazards.

Associated with the channel sandstone are oil seaps. The oil, at times, will run from the channels in such quantities that it must be collected in 55 gallon containers and removed from the mine.

The oil is very slick and makes walking or tramping machinery on the 10% grade almost impossible. The oil and gases associated with the oil are combustable and add significantly to the ignition hazard in an already gassy mine.

Mining to the east of the main dips in the 5 Mine has been attempted on twelve occasions and in every case mining was halted due to one or all of the three geologic complications mentioned above.

In 6th East all three geologic complications were encountered. The section was abandoned after a spark from a rock parting ignited the vapors from the oil and sent a fire ball back out the entry 100 feet burning two (2) employees and blowing one (1) employee to the ground. The fire had enough heat to melt the line curtain back 50 feet from the source of ignition.

7th East was originally abandoned in April 1982, when a rock parting was discovered and it was not deemed economical to construct the necessary facilities to mine in the questionable reserve.

8th East was abandoned in September 1983, when a rock parting appeared and thickened to over two (2) feet of sandstone within a distance of 50 feet. The rock could not be cut and explosives were required to complete the crosscut.

In March 1984, Price River Coal Co., in a desperate attempt to find a mineable reserve for the longwall, set up a probe section in 7th East. A rock parting was immediately encountered and a second parting encountered 650 feet inby stopped the mining as it was too hard to cut. The section was turned south and the second parting was avoided but a stream channel with large amounts of oil and adverse roof conditions hampered progress.

Within 500 feet the top parting increased in thickness to over two (2) feet with less than five (5) feet of coal left below. Channel sources were also causing fluctuations in mining height of up to two (2) feet.

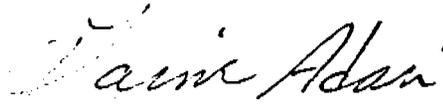
Mining in 7th East only advanced 250 feet over the last six (6) months due to the extremely high mining costs in the section.

Leon Berggren
September 18, 1986
Page - 3

In December 1985, production at Price River Coal Co. was suspended due to economics.

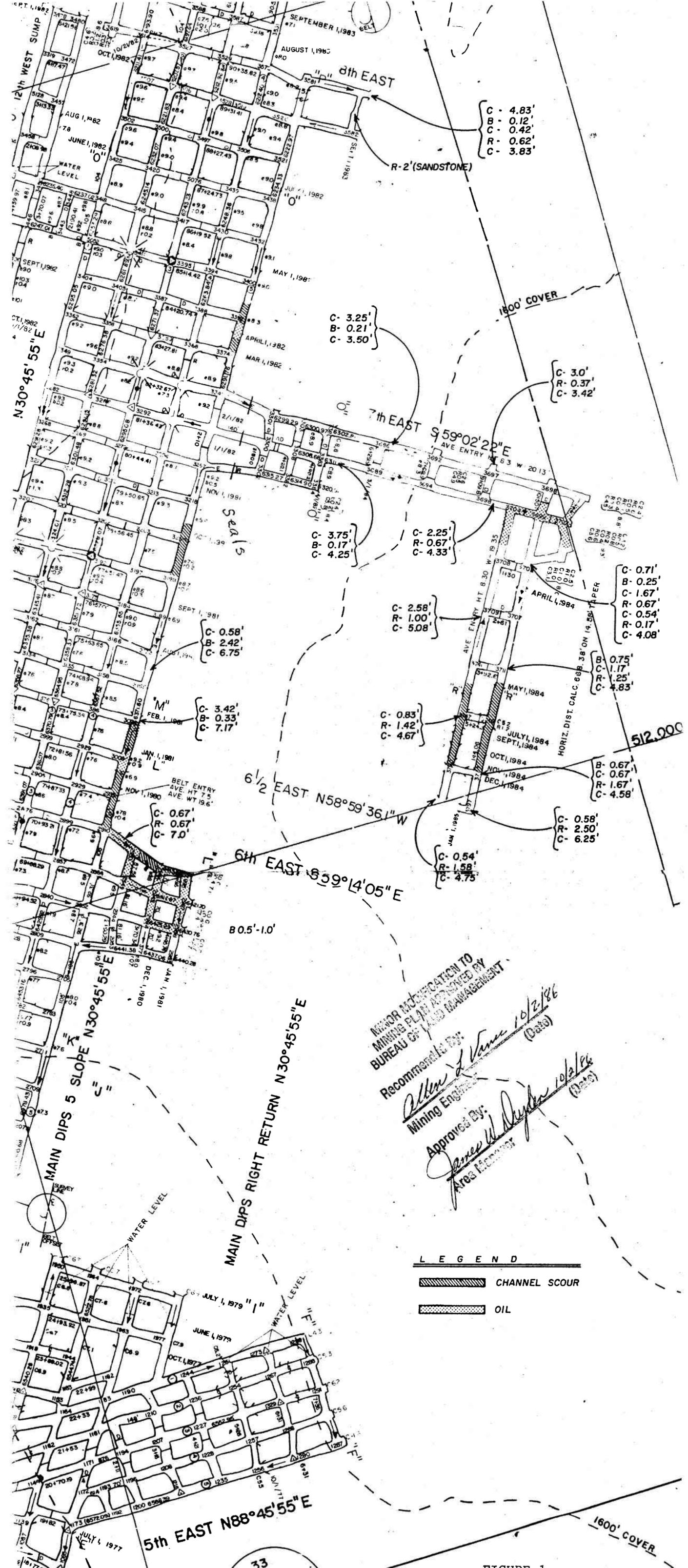
In summary, Castle Gate Coal Company does not consider the reserves east of the main dips an economically recoverable reserve and requests permission to seal the 7th East section so the air can be put to better use on the longwall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laine Adair".

Laine Adair

LA:jcr



C - 4.83'
 B - 0.12'
 C - 0.42'
 R - 0.62'
 C - 3.83'

C - 3.25'
 B - 0.21'
 C - 3.50'

C - 3.0'
 R - 0.37'
 C - 3.42'

C - 3.75'
 B - 0.17'
 C - 4.25'

C - 2.25'
 R - 0.67'
 C - 4.33'

C - 2.58'
 R - 1.00'
 C - 5.08'

C - 0.71'
 B - 0.25'
 C - 1.67'
 R - 0.67'
 C - 0.54'
 R - 0.17'
 C - 4.08'

C - 0.58'
 B - 2.42'
 C - 6.75'

C - 3.42'
 B - 0.33'
 C - 7.17'

C - 0.83'
 R - 1.42'
 C - 4.67'

B - 0.75'
 C - 1.17'
 R - 0.25'
 C - 4.83'

B - 0.67'
 C - 0.67'
 R - 1.67'
 C - 4.58'

C - 0.58'
 R - 2.50'
 C - 6.25'

C - 0.54'
 R - 1.58'
 C - 4.75'

MINOR MODIFICATION TO
 MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:
 Mining Engineer

Allen J. Vance 10/2/86
 (Date)

Approved By:
 Area Manager

James W. Dwyer 10/2/86
 (Date)

LEGEND
 CHANNEL SCOUR
 OIL

FIGURE 1