

Act/007/004-87H  
#2

0015



**CASTLE  
GATE**  
COAL COMPANY

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 29 1987

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

June 25, 1987

**FILE COPY**

Mr. Lowell Braxton  
Administrator  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
3 Triad Center  
Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Mr. Braxton:

Castle Gate Coal Company requests a variance from the permit provisions on topsoil stockpiling. Page 4 of the permit for the Unit Train Loadout states that Castle Gate Coal Company will remove and stockpile 12" or less of topsoil.

At my request, Bill Malencik of your staff visited the site on June 23rd. Mr. Malencik and I concluded that there is little or no topsoil at the site to be removed and stockpiled. More damage would be done to the extra topsoil layer by removal than leaving the soils in situ. The damage would result by mixing the cobble just under the soil into the thin topsoil which already has river cobble mixed into the soils. The accompanying pictures document the site condition.

Please note that an attempt was made to pick-up topsoil as shown on picture No. 2, but the result was a mixture of cobble and soil. Mr. Malencik and I believe much better revegetation results can be made in the fall by avoiding mixing cobble and stone as shown in this picture.

cc5.dogm/625

Mr. Lowell Braxton  
June 25, 1987  
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Please respond to this request as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

  
Richard H. Allison, Jr., P.E.  
Project Supervisor

RHA:jcr

cc: D. Miller  
B. Olson