

0011

**ecologic** permitting environmental reclamation

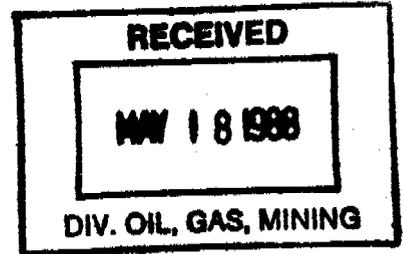
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(303) 989-6578

*cc: Max May  
File Act/007/004*

Price, UT  
Bakersfield, CA

May 13, 1988

Lowell Braxton  
Administrator of Minerals Resource Development  
Mined Land Reclamation Program  
3 Triad Center, Ste. 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-5340



Dear Lowell:

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Division of Oil Gas and Mining that Castle Gate Coal Company, located in Helper, Utah, intends to drill several observation holes within the existing permit area. The purpose of these holes is to establish the extent and condition of the abandoned mine located east of the preparation plant. Additionally, core or water samples may be taken. It should be noted that a meeting was held with Susan Linner on May 11 to discuss these proposed drilling activities.

The observation holes will be drilled within the existing permitted disturbed area east of the coal preparation plant. Access to these sites will be on existing dirt roads, and drilling will be conducted on previously disturbed lands. Drilling will be conducted by a rubber-tired rig, and the drill pad will be no larger than 50 by 50 feet. Thus, surface and vegetation disturbances will be minimal, and no topsoil will be removed. Drill cuttings, water, drilling muds, or other waste materials will be tanked and disposed of on the refuse pile or by other appropriate means. Any surface damage will be mitigated in accordance with Castle Gate Coal Company Permit ACT/007/004. These drill holes will be temporarily sealed until such time as their future application is determined. The Division will be notified as to the number of holes drilled, and their exact locations after the drilling program has been completed. It is anticipated that no more than 6 holes will be drilled. Ultimate well use or final sealing and abandonment procedures will be discussed with the Division within 90 days of completion of the drilling program.

It is anticipated that these holes will be drilled during the week of May 23, 1988, and Castle Gate invites Division staff to observe these drilling operations, if desired. If you have any questions regarding this drilling program, please contact Dave Miller, Project Supervisor, Castle Gate Coal Company (ph. 472-8661). We sincerely appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

*Susan*  
Susan D. Hasenjager

cc: Max Cooper  
Dave Miller  
Richard Allison