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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

April 8, 1988

Mr. Richard H. Allison, Jr., P.E.
Project Supervisor
Castle Gate Coal Company
P.O. Box 449
Helper, Utah 84526

Re: Review of Existing Sediment Ponds

Dear Mr. Allison:

We have completed review of documentation submitted concerning approval of all existing sediment ponds on Castle Gate Coal Company property. As-built sediment pond certifications, the Mining and Reclamation Plan submitted by the previous owner, and existing files were reviewed for compliance with applicable Bureau of Water Pollution Control policy and regulations. An on-site inspection of each pond was also conducted as part of the review. The following comments and recommendations are offered:

1. There are eight actual points of possible discharge from sedimentation ponds on Castle Gate Coal Company property. The points of discharge by pond No. are 004, 005, 009, 011, 012, 013, 014, and 015. This UPDES permit lists 12 discharge points from Castle Gate Coal Company property. The discrepancy is due to inclusion of intermediate ponds in a series treatment process and elimination of a sediment pond. Those ponds which operate in series are 003 through 004, and 007 through 009. Pond No. 010 has been modified to provide total containment. The discharge permit should be modified to accommodate existing conditions.
2. The existing discharge permit covers discharge points on Gate Coal Company property as well as Price River Coal property. Application for a UPDES permit should be made by one of the property owners in order to separate responsibility.
3. Pond No. 005 has no provisions for removal of floatables. It is our understanding the disturbed area which is served by pond No. 005 is scheduled for reclamation in 1988. Currently the area is used for storage of mining materials. No material which could release oil or grease is stored in this area.

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4. Pond No. 013 has no provisions for dewatering or separation of floatables. The as-built capacity is approximately 83% of the design capacity. However, this pond has never discharged and does not show evidence of having ever retained any appreciable amount of runoff. Also, the design storage is based upon ultimate development of the refuse disposal area.
5. Improvements to pond nos. 004 and 007 were completed during 1987 which resulted in compliance with minimum storage requirements as established by DOGM

Based upon our review we have concluded that existing sediment ponds basically comply with Utah Wastewater Disposal Regulations and Policies. However, Castle Gate Coal Company shall assume responsibility for additional treatment should discharge from any pond fail to meet State or Federal Standards.

Sincerely,

UTAH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE



Don A. Ostler, P.E.
Executive Secretary

cc: Oil, Gas & Mining ✓
David Ariotti, Southeast District Engineer

DRA/ag

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