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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Norman H. Bangert  
Governor

Dee C. Hansen  
Executive Director

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

September 9, 1991

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT  
P 755 090 776

Mr. James W. Buck  
Amax Coal Company  
One Riverfront Place  
20 North West 1st Street  
Evansville, IN 47708-1258

Dear Mr. Buck:

Re: Deficiencies Addressing CO C91-18-1-1, Amax Coal Company,  
Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Folder #2, Carbon County,  
Utah

As you are aware the Division issued Notice of Violation #N91-18-1-1 to Castle Gate Coal Company for problems associated with the diversions at the Schoolhouse Canyon refuse pile. A Failure to Abate Cessation Order (C91-18-1-1) was subsequently issued for not completing the required abatement as scheduled. A submittal was received at the Division offices on August 15, 1991 which was intended to abate the NOV.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the submittal was inadequate and has not abated the NOV. Please review the attached technical memo which points out the deficiencies that still need to be addressed. You should also be aware that the Failure to Abate Cessation Order is still in effect and will restart upon your receipt of this letter. We encourage you to make every effort to complete the abatement requirements.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daron R. Haddock".

Daron R. Haddock  
Permit Supervisor

cc: J. Helfrich  
L. Braxton  
AMAXCO.LET

P 755 090 776

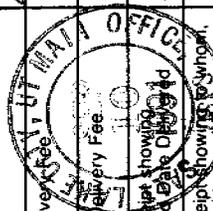
**RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL**

NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED  
NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

(See Reverse)

MBM DOGM-COAL ACT/007/004 FLDR #2

Sent to <b>JAMES W. BUCK AMAX COAL COMPANY</b>	
Street and No. <b>1 RIVERFRONT PLACE 20 N W 1ST STREET</b>	
P.O. State and ZIP Code <b>EVANSVILLE IN 47708-1258</b>	
Postage	\$ 2.29
Certified Fee	1.00
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt showing to whom and Date Delivered	1.00
Return Receipt showing to whom, Date, and Address of Delivery	
TOTAL Postage and Fees	\$ 4.29
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PS Form 3800, June 1983

Remainder of envelope to be kept

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801-538-5340

TO: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Sharon Falvey, Reclamation Hydrologist SKF

DATE: September 6, 1991

RE: CO C91-18-1-1, Amax Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

## SUMMARY

On December 24, 1991 the Division renewed the permit for Castle Gate mine. The permit included stipulations requiring additional drainage controls for the refuse pile. The operator submitted drainage designs on March 1, 1991 that were determined to be inadequate. Following a Ten Day Letter from OSM and two attempts to appeal the issue, it was determined to be necessary to write a violation based on noncompliance. The violation was issued on July 1, 1991. The operator was given 30 days to submit a proposal and obtain Division approval, and 60 days to construct and abate the violation. On August 14, 1991 Cessation Order No. 91-18-1-1 was issued for failure to abate part one of the violation.

The Division received the operator's amendment that addresses C91-18-1-1, on August 15, 1991. This memo summarizes compliance deficiencies regarding that amendment.

## ANALYSIS

**R614-301-742.300**  
**R614-301-746.212**

### Operator's Proposal:

The ditches surrounding the refuse pile to intercept runoff from the undisturbed areas include; the undisturbed bypass drainage (CGD-5), diversion ditches (CGD-6, CGD-7A, CGD-7B), dump perimeter drainage ditches and culvert (CGC-4). Existing

*Rough Draft  
Sent  
Aug 30*

ditches include the undisturbed drainage ditch CGD-6 and culvert CGC-4 and perimeter ditches.

The operator proposes to include Ditch 7A, and 7B as an uninterrupted diversion ditch located along the wall of the canyon. The operator proposes an intermediate design to be to the same specifications as the design of the proposed final diversion.

## DIVERSIONS

**R614-742.300**

### DIVERSION DESIGNS

The operator has proposed that drainage from the top of the refuse be routed to drainage ditch 7A by grading the top of the pile to the diversion. The operator still has not included a design for control of drainage over the face of the refuse pile.

The operator indicates that interim designs for the diversions will meet the proposed reclamation designs. The operator proposes the surface of the refuse site will be sloped so drainage will be controlled and diverted to Diversion ditch 7A. The contours of Exhibit 3.4A depict that the runoff diversion channel 7A is actually located at an elevation above 6610 feet. The highest elevation of the proposed refuse pile is depicted at 6600 feet therefore, making installation of the proposed design impossible.

The operator indicates that the peak 100 yr.-6 hr. event discharges 17.0 cfs and 20.1 cfs to ditches 7A and 7B respectively. The operator has not adequately referenced the location in the MRP for these values. Through review of Exhibit 3.4-A, and Drawing 3.4-2, the Division determined the area contributing to drainage 7B to be approximately twice the area indicated by the operators designs (approximately 28 acres verses 55 acres). The operator must clarify this discrepancy.

The Diversion ditch D-6 is designed for the 25 yr.-24 hr. precipitation event. Current rules require a 100 yr.- 6 hr. design event for this structure. No design for the perimeter ditch indicated in Exhibit 3.4-A could be located.

## RECOMENDATION

The operator still has not met the requirements of C91-18-1-1. The operator has not provided designs for control of the drainage as specified in the NOV: "Failure to pass drainage from the crest and the face of the refuse...". The operators proposed designs are inadequate. Additionally, the operator has proposed ditch designs for

Page 3  
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final reclamation without submitting other necessary information. For instance, the operator has directed the drainage to pond 013 yet, pond 013 is not an approved permanent structure. Therefore, the refuse pile ditches do not provide adequate control of the drainage once pond 013 is removed. No cross sections are provided to adequately demonstrate channel design for a permanent structure.

It is recommended that the operator submit drainage designs for the temporary interim drainage and short term conditions to abate the cessation order. The final ditch reclamation designs must be submitted as a part of the Division Order and NOV N91-28-2-1 due September 19, 1991.

CGRENOV.MSF