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Norman H. Bangerter
Governor
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Executive Director
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Division Director

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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

June 26, 1992

Mr. Richard Allison, Jr.
Project Supervisor
AMAX Coal Company, Belle Ayr Mine
2273 Bishop Road
P. O. Box 3005
Gillette, Wyoming 82717-3005

Dear Mr. Allison:

Re: Clarification of Subsidence Monitoring Requirements, AMAX Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Folder #3, Carbon County, Utah

The Division has completed a review of your recently submitted subsidence monitoring data. Thank you for the information. As per your request we are providing you our assessment of what is required for future monitoring at the Castle Gate Mine. Please review the enclosed technical memo by Jim Smith which discusses those requirements.

If you have any further questions, please call me or Jim Smith.

Sincerely,

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

Daron R. Haddock
Permit Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: J. Smith
S. Demczak, PFO
SUBSPLAN.AMA



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TO: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: James D. Smith, Reclamation Specialist/Inspector *JDS*

RE: Castle Gate Mine Subsidence Monitoring, AMAX Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

SUMMARY:

Amax submitted the latest subsidence monitoring data for the Bear Canyon area on June 18, 1992. In the letter accompanying the data Richard Allison requested clarification on when the next monitoring was to be done. He also asked, if there is no mining for the next several years and if no additional subsidence is being detected, could the monitoring program be placed in temporary cessation until mining begins again.

ANALYSIS:

On page 10 of the revised (Revised 10/91) Section 3.1 of the MRP the operator commits to subsidence monitoring in 1992 and 1993 and then every three years thereafter, for a period lasting until at least five years after reclamation of the mined areas. This is the plan if no substantial subsidence is detected.

If substantial subsidence is detected, the operator will conduct an investigation for surface disturbance and the Division will be consulted about changes in the subsidence monitoring schedule.

The subsidence monitoring points for the Bear Canyon area were installed in 1981. The last monitoring previous to 1992 was in 1982. Of the original subsidence monitoring points in Bear and Price Canyons, 12 could not be relocated in 1992 and the subsidence survey was based on 5 points. Vertical movement of approximately one foot was detected at one point and the remaining four had negligible movement. No surface effects of subsidence were noted within the canyon during the 1992 survey.

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CONCLUSION:

According to the MRP the next subsidence monitoring is to be performed in 1993 and should be carried out as scheduled. If no substantial movement is detected then the monitoring should continue at three year intervals as stated in the MRP, continuing until at least five years after reclamation of the mined areas. This is not a burdensome schedule, even if mining ceases for a period of time. If substantial movement is detected, whether or not there is active mining, the operator must consult the Division to determine necessary changes in the subsidence monitoring schedule.

cc: BTEAM

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