



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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TO: File

THROUGH: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist *PAB*

RE: Addition of Seed Mix for Temporary Stabilization, AMAX Coal Co., Castle Gate Mine, Folder #2, ACT/007/004, Carbon County, Utah

11/23/93

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

AMAX has proposed to add to Chapter IX of their mining and reclamation plan a seed mix which would be used for temporary stabilization. This mix was derived from Division recommendations which were based on information in the Interagency Forage and Conservation Planting Guide for Utah. The species are mostly introduced, but they establish fairly quickly and should provide good long-term but temporary erosion control. R645-301-353.300 allows the use of introduced species when they are necessary to achieve a quick-growing, temporary, stabilizing cover, and measures to establish permanent vegetation are included in the approved permit and reclamation plan.

AMAX must realize that the species in this seed mix are not acceptable for the final reclamation performance standards. At final reclamation, all areas except water areas and the surfaces of roads (R645-301-353) must be reseeded with the final reclamation seed mix. If interim stabilization species are still present after site preparation, some herbicide application could be necessary to reduce their numbers and allow for establishment of the species in the permanent revegetation mixes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend approval of this amendment. AMAX must understand that the species in this seed mix are not acceptable for final revegetation.