



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

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**INSPECTION REPORT**

Partial: X Complete:    Exploration:     
 Inspection Date & Time: September 14, 1993, 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.  
 Date of Last Inspection: August 10, 1993

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004  
 Permittee and/or Operator's Name: AMAX Coal West  
 Business Address: 165 S. Union Blvd, Ste. 1000, P. O. Box 280219, Lakewood, CO 80228-0219  
 Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface    Prep. Plant X Other     
 State Official(s): Paul Baker  
 Company Official(s): Richard Allison  
 Federal Official(s): None  
 Weather Conditions: Clear, 60's  
 Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7619 Disturbed- 170 Regraded- 6.5 Seeded- 6.5 Bonded- 134.5  
 Increased/Decreased: Permitted- 0 Disturbed- 0 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 0  
 Status:    Exploration/    Active/    Inactive/    Temporary Cessation/    Bond Forfeiture  
 Reclamation (X Phase I/    Phase II/    Final Bond Release/ 9 for Goose Island Liability    Year)

**REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS**

Instructions

1. Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - a. For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
  - b. For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
2. Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
3. Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
4. Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	<u>EVALUATED</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>NOV/ENF</u>
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_(date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: September 14, 1993

### (Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

#### 1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

The abatement date for violation N92-39-7-1 was extended to Sept. 23, 1993, to allow the Division time to evaluate the construction work. A Sept. 10, 1993, letter from Richard Allison states that, although he believes that the ditch meets the design specifications and that the violation has been abated, there are a few areas in the ditch which could use some placement of coarse material. Other concerns with the construction of this ditch are also addressed in this letter.

AMAX has requested some changes in the riprap design for the reclamation of Sowbelly Gulch.

The Division and AMAX are planning to schedule a meeting to discuss resolving the final issues relating to the Settlement Agreement under Docket 91-001.

By letter dated September 3, 1993, AMAX requested an informal conference to review the fact of violation and assessment for violation N93-41-2-1. The Division issued the assessment for this violation on September 17, 1993.

#### 3. Topsoil

Dave Buckner of ESCO Associates, a consultant working for AMAX, and I took samples of soil from regraded areas of the No. 4 Mine canyon. Composite samples were taken to a depth of about four feet. These will be analyzed according to various parameters discussed in the plan.

On September 13, soil samples were taken from vegetation reference areas in Sowbelly and Gilson Gulches, and they were taken from the Goose Island area during the inspection. These samples will be analyzed for texture and % organic carbon to compare the soil conditions of the reference areas to the reclaimed area.

#### 9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife, and Related Environmental Values

On August 30, 1993, several large rocks which had been stockpiled during grading were placed in piles on the south side of the No. 4 Mine canyon. The piles were constructed according to recommendations received from the Division of Wildlife Resources and Mark Mesch of the Division, and I have already seen them being used by small mammals. More rocks should be placed on the north side of the canyon when grading operations are completed there.

#### 12. Backfilling and Grading

On August 19, 1993, Division personnel Randy Harden, Daron Haddock, Lowell Braxton and I visited the No. 4 Mine canyon in an attempt to determine if the grading meets approximate original contour restoration requirements. Leaving portions of the exposed coal seam was also discussed. It was decided that further work still needed to be performed to blend the regraded areas with the cuts that will remain. Also, the coal seam needs to be adequately covered or treated to control the impact on surface and ground water, to prevent sustained combustion, and to minimize adverse effects on plant growth and the approved postmining land use in accordance with R645-301-553.300. This issue is not addressed in the plan.

During the inspection, some grading was performed to try to blend graded material into the cuts on the south side of the canyon. The adequacy of this grading still needs to be evaluated by a Division engineer. Final grading has not been performed on the north side of the canyon because of a flat area that will be needed as a road for seeding equipment.

PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

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13. Revegetation

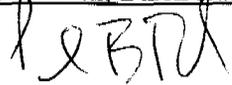
During the inspection and on the day before, vegetation sampling was being performed in the Goose Island area and on reference areas in Sowbelly and Gilson Gulches in anticipation of applying for final bond release. The Division will be taking independent measurements of these areas.

Also during the inspection, I worked with Mr. Buckner explaining the Erosion Condition Classification System. It is planned that this system will be used to demonstrate or as part of a demonstration that the vegetation is adequate to control erosion on the reclaimed areas.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Richard Allison (AMAX), Marcia Petta (OSM)

Given to: Joe Helfrich, Daron Haddock (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature: 

Paul B. Baker #41

Date: September 20, 1993