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

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TO: Mr. Richard H. Allison, Jr. P.E.
Project Supervisor
Via Fax (303) 980-2301

FROM: Randy Harden, Sr. Reclamation Engineer

RE: Exposed Coal Seams, AMAX Coal West Inc., Castle Gate Mine,
ACT/007/004, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

The CFR and DOGM regulations regarding exposed coal seams are as listed below. MSHA appears to only address sealing of mine openings under 30 CFR 75.1771. I suggest that you prepare an amendment to your plan which addresses exposed coal seams where they are anticipated during reclamation. The covering or treatment of the coal seams should directly address those criteria as stated in the rules listed below.

30 CFR Sec. 817.102 Backfilling and grading: General requirements.

(f) Exposed coal seams, acid- and toxic-forming materials, and combustible materials exposed, used, or produced during mining shall be adequately covered with nontoxic and noncombustible materials, or treated, to control the impact on surface and ground water in accordance with Section 817.41, to prevent sustained combustion, and to minimize adverse effects on plant growth and the approved postmining land use.

R645-301-553.300.

Exposed coal seams, acid- and toxic-forming materials, and combustible materials exposed, used, or produced during mining will be adequately covered with nontoxic and noncombustible materials, or treated, to control the impact on surface and ground water in accordance with R645-301-731.100 through R645-301-731.522 and R645-301-731.800, to prevent sustained combustion, and to minimize adverse effects on plant growth and the approved postmining land use.

cc: D Haddock

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*           ** TRANSMIT CONFIRMATION REPORT **
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*   Journal No.   : 014
*   Receiver      :      303 980 2301
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