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

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December 28, 1995

TO: File

FROM: Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist 

RE: Draft Review, Addition of Small Area to Willow Creek Refuse Removal Project, Castle Gate Mine, Amax Coal Company, ACT/007/004, Folder #2 and TA Binder, Carbon County, Utah

## SYNOPSIS

On December 28, 1995, the Division received a proposal from Amax Coal Company to add 0.25 acres to the Willow Creek Refuse Removal Project disturbed area. Amax submitted revised copies of two maps and runoff calculations for the sediment pond.

## ANALYSIS

Amax Coal Company has proposed to add 0.25 acres to its disturbed area for the Willow Creek Refuse Removal Project. All required baseline information is already incorporated in the plan.

Topsoil would be salvaged by pushing it into a berm around the north and east sides of the area. This berm would prevent runoff from entering Willow Creek. Soil in the berm should be protected from loss possibly through the use of silt fences or straw bales.

Runoff from an additional area of 0.81 acres would go to pond 1. This pond's capacity is 15.7 acre feet, and the total storage volume required is only 1.33 acre feet. The capacity is obviously adequate for the amount of water that might be contained in the pond.

The increase in size of the disturbed area is less than 1% of the area already disturbed for just the Willow Creek Refuse Removal Project; therefore, additional reclamation costs would be very minor compared to the bond for the entire Castle Gate Mine.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Division should approve this amendment.