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

ACT/007/004#2

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June 1, 1995

TO: FILE

TO: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Henry Sauer, Senior Reclamation Soils Specialist *HS*

RE: Proposed Coal Mine Waste and Substitute  
Topsoil Material Sampling Program in  
Hardscrabble Canyon, AMAX Coal Co., Castle  
Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Folder #2, Carbon  
County, Utah

**SYNOPSIS**

EarthFax Engineering Inc. (EFE), representing the permittee has submitted (dated May 30, 1995) a proposal to sample coal mine waste and overburden (proposed substitute topsoil material) in Hardscrabble Canyon. The purpose of the sampling plan is to identify potentially acid-and/or-toxic forming materials and to locate and characterize substitute topsoil materials (i.e. overburden) within the disturbed area.

**ANALYSIS**

Prior to the submission of the aforementioned sampling proposal a technical site visit was held on May 25, 1995 and numerous discussions were conducted with David McMillan (EFE) and this writer.

Division staff will be on site during sample collection. Execution of the sampling plan is tentatively planned for the week of June 12, 1995.

The permittee and their representatives must recognize the fact that when the Division supplies an Approximate Original Contour Finding the backfilling and grading plan may be significantly revised. This may preface the requirement for additional soil and overburden sample collection and analysis.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The proposed coal mine waste and overburden sampling plan is adequate to assess the acid and/or toxic forming potential of the coal mine waste on site and locate and characterize substitute topsoil material within the disturbed area.