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**CYPRUS PLATEAU  
MINING CORPORATION**

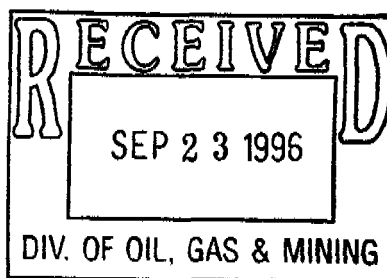
A Cyprus Amax Company

007/004 # 2  
cc: Paul  
Joe  
Daron  
Pam  
Wayne  
Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation  
Post Office Drawer PMC  
Price, Utah 84501  
(801) 637-2875

*September 20, 1996*

*Mr. Darron Haddock  
Permit Supervisor  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801*

*Re: Application for Phase I Bond Release  
Sowbelly Gulch No. 5 Mine  
AMAX Coal Company  
Castle Gate Mine  
ACT/007/004  
Carbon County, Utah*



*Dear Mr. Haddock:*

*AMAX Coal Co. has completed Phase I of the approved reclamation plan for the Sowbelly Gulch No. 5 Mine area of the Castle Gate Mine. This is based on the completion of the backfilling and grading and drainage control on the bonded area.*

*In accordance with the provisions of R645-301-880, AMAX Coal Co. is hereby applying for release of 60% of the applicable performance bond. The original bond posted for the Castle Gate Mine is \$6,757,451.00, of which \$770,721.00 is designated for the Sowbelly Gulch reclamation. The company's request is to release 60%, or \$462,433.00 of the Sowbelly Gulch bond amount.*

*The original minesite reclamation was performed in the fall of 1994. Subsequent "Reclamation Improvements" required by the Division were completed in the fall of 1995. Reclamation was completed on a total of 21.0 disturbed acres, in accordance with Phase II of the approved Reclamation Plan for the site. All structure removal and earthwork has been completed, except for the removal of the electrical sub-station and access road. These areas will be reclaimed when power transmission is no longer necessary from this site. Costs for this reclamation are not included in this request for bond release.*

*Copies of letters of notification to land owners, agencies and water companies in the area are enclosed. A copy of the newspaper advertisement placed prior to submittal of this application is also enclosed. This advertisement will run for four consecutive weeks in the local area paper. Proof of publication will be sent to the Division upon completion.*

*Mr. Darron Haddock*  
*September 20, 1996*  
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*It is our hope this application will meet with your approval. An on-site inspection can be arranged at your convenience. If you have any questions, or need any further information, please let me know.*

*Sincerely,*



*Johnny Pappas*  
*Sr. Environmental Engineer*