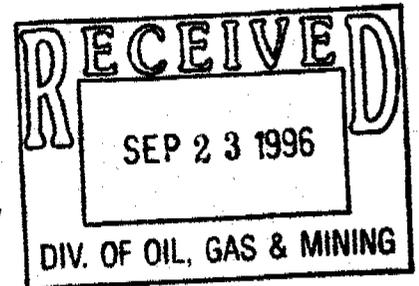


****PUBLIC NOTICE******Application for Phase I Bond Release**

**Sowbelly Gulch No. 5 Mine
Amax Coal Company
Castle Gate Mine**

**Permit #ACT/007/004, Approved 12/24/94
Carbon County, Utah**



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.

The original minesite reclamation was completed in the fall of 1994. Subsequent reclamation improvements were completed in the fall of 1995. Reclamation was performed on a total of 21.0 disturbed acres.

In accordance with the provisions of R645-301-880, of the State of Utah R645-Coal Mining Rules, notice is hereby given to the general public that AMAX Coal Co. is applying for partial release of the performance bond posted for this operation.

The original surety bond posted for the Castle Gate Mine is \$6,757,451.00 of which \$770,721.00 is designated for the Sowbelly Gulch No. 5 Mine reclamation. AMAX Coal Co. is seeking release of 60% of the Sowbelly Gulch portion of the bond, or \$462,433.00. All earthwork has been completed on this site, except for the removal of an electrical sub-station and access road. Reclamation of this area will be completed when transmission of power from the sub-station is no longer necessary. Costs for this reclamation are not included in this bond release request.

*The Sowbelly Gulch No. 5 Mine is included in the Castle Gate Mine Permit Area.
The following are legal descriptions of the Castle Gate Permit Area:*

Township 12 South, Range 9 East, SLBM, Utah

- Section 22: Portions SE ¼ SW ¼ and SW ¼ SE ¼***
- Section 26: All, except E ½ E ½***
- Section 27: All***
- Section 28: All***
- Section 29: All, except N ½ NW ¼ and NW ¼ NE ¼***
- Section 30: All, except N ½ N ½***
- Section 31: All***
- Section 32: All***
- Section 33: All***
- Section 34: All***
- Section 35: Portions of N ½ , W ½ SW ¼ and SE ¼ SE ¼***
- Section 36: S ½ NW ¼ and portions of SW ¼ and NE ¼***

Township 13 South, Range 9 East, SLBM, Utah

- Section 1: Portion of NW ¼ NW ¼***
- Section 2: Portions of NE ¼ and NW ¼***
- Section 3: NW ¼ and portions of NE ¼ , SE ¼ and SW ¼***
- Section 4: N ½ and portions of SE ¼ and SW ¼***
- Section 5: NE ¼ and portions of NW ¼ , SE ¼ and SW ¼***
- Section 6: N ½ and portions of SW ¼ and SE ¼***
- Section 8: Portion of NE ¼***
- Section 9: Portions of NE ¼ , NW ¼ and SW ¼***
- Section 10: Portions of NE ¼ and NW ¼***

Federal Coal Leases were:

- SL-029093***
- U-058184***
- U-25484***
- SL-071737***
- U-25485***
- U-019524***

State Coal Leases were:

- ML-18148***
- ML-11940***
- ML-13681***

The Sowbelly Gulch No. 5 Mine area is located on the Standardville, Utah, U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute quadrangle map. The minesite is located in Sowbelly Gulch, approximately 4 miles west - northwest of Helper, Utah. Reclamation work was performed on approximately 21.0 acres of disturbed and affected area located on the following described lands:

Township 13 South, Range 9 East, SLBM, Utah

Section 4: NW ¼ SW ¼ , SW ¼ SW ¼

Section 9: NW ¼ NW ¼

The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining will now evaluate the proposal to determine whether it meets all of the criteria of the Permanent Program Performance Standards according to the requirements of the Utah Coal Mining Rules.

Upon completion of the evaluation, a decision will be made as to approval or disapproval of the application. The reclamation plan is available for public review at: Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801, and at the Carbon County Courthouse, Price, Utah 84501.

Written comments, objections and requests for public hearing or informal conference on this proposal may be addressed to:

***Mr. Jim W. Carter, Director
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801***