



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

## INSPECTION REPORT

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
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Partial:  Complete:  Exploration:   
Inspection Date & Time: November 13, 1996, 1:30 to 5:30 PM  
Date of Last Inspection: October 16 and 22, 1996

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004  
Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Amax Coal Holding Co.  
Business Address: P. O. Drawer PMC, Price, Utah 84501  
Type of Mining Activity: Underground  Surface  Prep. Plant  Other   
State Officials(s): Paul Baker and Bob Davidson  
Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas  
Federal Official(s): None  
Weather Conditions: Mostly clear, 50's  
Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7646.5 Disturbed- 197.5 Regraded- 33.2 Seeded- 33.2 Bonded- 162  
Increased/Decreased: Permitted- 0 Disturbed- 0 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- 0  
Status: Exploration/  Active/  Inactive/  Temporary Cessation/  Bond Forfeiture  
Reclamation (  Phase I/  Phase II/  Final Bond Release/ 10 for Goose Island Liability Year

### REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

#### Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
  - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
  - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_(date)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: November 13, 1996

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

### 1. Permits, Change, Transfer, Renewal, Sale

On November 22, 1996, the Division received a proposal to separate the Castle Gate and Willow Creek permits. They overlap in the Castle Gate Preparation Plant, Crandall Canyon, and Gravel Canyon areas.

### 3. Topsoil

Some refuse material has been added to the Schoolhouse Canyon refuse pile. I don't believe any soil on the sides of the canyon has been contaminated with refuse, but the refuse has been graded very near the canyon sides. The way the refuse has been graded, it would be difficult to salvage the soil, but the refuse could be graded back to make it easier.

I don't believe there is anything in the plan showing where soil from Schoolhouse Canon will be stored, but there is plenty of room in Gravel Canyon.

### 4. Hydrologic Balance

#### a. Diversion

There is a lot of sediment on the grate in front of the inlet to CGC-12. This needs to be cleaned.

The upper portion of CGD-5 has a low gradient and runs along the southeast side of the Schoolhouse Canyon refuse pile. The lower part of this diversion is ripped and/or grouted. At the point where the upper and lower parts of the ditch meet, water has been piping into the refuse pile. This happened earlier this year and the operator tried to correct it, but it obviously didn't work. This problem needs to be taken care of as soon as possible.

### 9. Protection of Fish, Wildlife and Related Environmental Values

We found more bear tracks in the area of pond 14. It was pretty clear there was a cub with a large bear.

### 12. Backfilling and Grading

Grading is continuing in Hardscrabble Canyon. The contractor has finished grading in the No. 3 Mine fan portal highwall area and on the cut along the road between No. 4 Mine canyon and Goose Island. Several rocks were placed below the cliff at the fan portal highwall to make it look like a natural rockfall.

Some refuse from the lower part of Goose Island has been taken down to a flat area just below pond 7. There is a sandstone ledge in this area that was not going to be backfilled, but the refuse was not anticipated and there is just about no other place to put it.

### 13. Revegetation

I talked with the seed supplier who told me blueleaf aster seed is not available. Instead, he suggested they include northern sweetvetch. I agreed to this substitution since there is a lot of northern sweetvetch in the canyon. Also, Mr. Pappas told me he plans to double the amount of yellow sweet clover that will be planted. Some areas in Sowbelly Gulch that had a lot of yellow sweet clover have had good vegetation reestablishment.

### 16. Roads

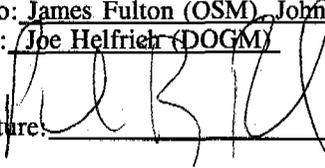
#### b. Drainage Control

The August inspection report discussed a culvert in Crandall Canyon that needed to have the leaves cleared. Although Mr. Pappas told us the leaves had been cleared, there were a lot of leaves in front of the culvert again. We cleared them, but I expect this to be an ongoing problem.

### Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: James Fulton (OSM), Johnny Pappas (Amax)

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DOGM)

Inspector's Signature:  Paul B. Baker #41 Date: December 10, 1996