

0039



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor  
Ted Stewart  
Executive Director  
James W. Carter  
Division Director

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340  
801-538-5319 (TDD)

## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial:  Complete:  Exploration:

Inspection Date & Time: February 22 & 23, 1996, 3:30 to 5:30 P.M. and 8:00 to 11:00 A.M.

Date of Last Inspection: January 11, 1996

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: AMAX Coal Co.

Business Address: P. O. Box 449, Helper, Utah

Type of Mining Activity: Underground  Surface  Prep. Plant  Other

State Official(s): Paul Baker

Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas

Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Mostly cloudy to mostly clear, 20-30's, up to six inches of snow in Sowbelly

Existing Acreage: Permitted- 7646.75 Disturbed- 197.75 Regraded- 33.2 Seeded- 33.2 Bonded- 162

Increased/Decreased: Permitted- +0.25 Disturbed- +0.25 Regraded- 0 Seeded- 0 Bonded- +0.25

Status: Exploration/Active/Inactive/Temporary Cessation/Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (X 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/FNE
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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## INSPECTION REPORT

(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/004

DATE OF INSPECTION: January 22-23, 1996

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

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

The Division is reviewing the following amendments:

A proposal to increase the size of the disturbed area at the Willow Creek waste removal site by 0.96 acres.

A proposal to erect some conveyor structures and install water lines in the preparation plant area.

Phase I bond release application for Sowbelly Gulch.

A response to the Division's review of the Crandall Canyon mining and reclamation plan.

### 3. Topsoil

The topsoil pile at Willow Creek has still not been seeded. This needs to be done as soon as possible to take advantage of any opportunities for germination.

### 4. Hydrologic Balance

#### a. Diversions

Culvert HCC-8 has been repaired. It had a small area where it was separating.

### 7. Coal Mine Waste/Sediment Ponds/Impoundments

Chemical analyses of the coal waste that was taken from Willow Creek to the Schoolhouse Canyon refuse pile indicate most of it has elevated boron levels. The average concentration for nine samples was 7.40 ppm. The range was 3.54 to 13.40 ppm. Anything greater than 5 ppm is considered toxic to plants.

The operator has been making a new switchback on the Schoolhouse Canyon refuse pile. New waste on the pile is also being graded to a 2h:1v slope.

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

Ben Grimes has been monitoring golden eagle nesting activity in the Willow Creek area. There are several nests in Eagle and Castle Canyons to the northwest and southeast of the refuse removal area. On February 26, 1996, I telephoned Mr. Grimes to ask what he has seen. He said there is a pair of eagles apparently tending a nest in Castle Canyon. This nest appears to be outside the one-half mile buffer zone normally required for active nests, and I do not believe it is within direct view of the disturbance area.

### 21. Bonding and Insurance

The Division has accepted a rider to increase Bond 929 80 55 from \$4,415,505 to \$6,757,451. The Division holds an additional bond for the Willow Creek area in the amount of \$2,559,000.

### Copy of this Report:

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

Given to: Joe Helfrich (DDGM)

Inspector's Signature:  Paul B. Baker #41 Date: February 26, 1996