



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

*gjh*

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## INSPECTION REPORT

Partial: X Complete:    Exploration:   

Inspection Date & Time: March 18, 1997, 10:45 AM to 12:00 PM

Date of Last Inspection: February 24, 1997

Mine Name: Castle Gate County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/004  
 Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Amax Coal Co.  
 Business Address: P. O. Drawer PMC, Price, Utah 84501  
 Type of Mining Activity: Underground X Surface    Prep. Plant X Other     
 State Official(s): Paul Baker  
 Company Official(s): None  
 Federal Official(s): None  
 Weather Conditions: Sunny, 50's, patchy snow up to about 12" deep  
 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 (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/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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input 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: March 18, 1997

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

This inspection was in Hardscrabble Canyon although I have periodically visited the Castle Gate Preparation Plant to check the abatement of violation N97-41-1-3, part 3 of 3. Near sediment pond 9, it appears there was a snowslide, and snow is still deep enough in this area to preclude driving all the way to the site. I was able to walk in, and this was the first time I've been to the site since November.

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

The Division is continuing to review a proposal to separate the permits for the Willow Creek and Castle Gate Mines. They overlap in the Castle Gate Preparation Plant, Gravel Canyon and Crandall Canyon areas. Included in the new version of the Castle Gate plan are unapproved versions of the Hardscrabble Canyon reclamation plan and ownership and control information for Chapter 2.

### 4. Hydrologic Balance

#### a. Diversions

There is some earth material in the main channel in Hardscrabble Canyon. There is also a section of a six-foot diameter culvert laying in the channel. These both need to be removed.

#### b. Sediment Ponds and Impoundments

I did not check sediment pond 12B as part of this inspection, but I did look at it on March 12. Completion of the pond is required for full abatement of violation N97-41-1-3, part 3 of 3. The pond is not yet completed, and Ben Grimes of Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation has told me it will probably not be done until the end of April. The company was not able to do much work during the winter because of the need to get proper compaction. Also, there are some water and sewer lines in the area that have to be relocated, and the work has been very slow. The abatement date has been extended to April 3, but it will probably need to be extended to April 30. In the meantime, the silt fences that were the main subject of the violation need to be maintained and checked at least every two hours during periods of snowmelt or rainfall.

### 9. Noncoal Waste

Next to the culvert discussed under "Revegetation" below, there were several oil containers, and some of them were nearly full. Some of this oil has spilled and contaminated the soil, and it needs to be cleaned up. I did not measure the area involved, but I remember it being about 100 square feet.

### 13. Revegetation

I found six bags of seed in a culvert that was laying alongside the road not too far above the gate. It appeared this seed had been there all winter. Some of the nylon mesh bags were sitting in a puddle of water on the bottom of the culvert, and about one-third of the culvert still had several inches of snow in it. I do not know if the operator intends to use this seed for reseeding, but, if so, it needs to first be retested. These were anything but ideal storage conditions.

Several containerized curleaf mountain mahogany plants were stored in the open next to the culvert. These appeared to be in good condition and, surprisingly, uneaten.

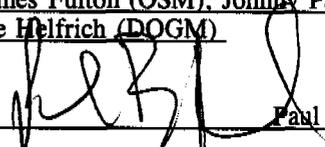
### 16. Roads

With the melting snow, there have been some rockfalls into the ditches along the road and onto the road itself. As the site becomes accessible, these will need to be cleared.

### 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: March 20, 1997