



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Ted Stewart
Executive Director
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
PO Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-7223 (TDD)

TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

Date : May 21, 1998
DOG M Staff: Robert Davidson and Priscilla Burton
Attendants: Johnny Pappas, AMAX Coal Company
RE: Adit #1 Sediment Pond Cleanout, AMAX Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004, Carbon County, Utah.

Purpose:

- Sample and analyze Adit #1 sediment pond cleanout material for substitute topsoil suitability.

Background:

- The Adit #1 sediment pond had been cleaned out the previous week. The two choices for dealing with the clean-out material were to either (1) disposal on the Shoolhouse Canyon refuse pile or (2) salvage as substitute topsoil in the Gravel Canyon topsoil stockpile. Johnny Pappas requested the later because the material appeared as a suitable substitute topsoil.

Observations:

- The sediment pond clean-out material was piled to the south of the pond. The surface material sampled had a coarse, sandy texture.
- A saturated paste was made with the following results:
pH = 8.2 @ 65 °C
EC = 1.2 mmohs/cm
Both of these field measured parameters are within acceptable limits of DOGM's Guidelines for substitute topsoil. Additional analyses from a certified soil's laboratory is required for acceptance as substitute topsoil.

Recommendations/Conclusions:

- Sample and analyze the sediment pond clean-out material for acid-base potential, hot water extractable boron, DTPA extractable selenium, and water holding capacity. At AMAX's discretion, additional analyses may include pH, EC, and SAR. Analyses need to be performed by a certified soils laboratory.
- Based on analyses results, obtain DOGM's approval for accepting this material as substitute topsoil and placement within Gravel Canyon's topsoil stockpile.

Signature: 
Robert A. Davidson, Soils Reclamation Specialist

on May 27, 1998