



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

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January 6, 1998

TO: File

THRU: Daron Haddock, Permit Supervisor *DRH*

THRU: Joe Helfrich, Permit Supervisor *JH*

FROM: Wayne H. Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist *WHW*

RE: Sowbelly Canyon - Slump Monitoring Plan, AMAX Coal Company, Castle Gate Mine, ACT/007/004-97B, File #2, Carbon County, Utah

**Summary:**

On December 23, 1997, the Division received copies of Appendix 3.2J - Monitoring Network for Sowbelly Canyon. The Permittee wants to monitor a slump near sediment pond 016 before repairing the damage.

**Technical Analysis:**

The Permittee found a small slump near sediment pond 016 ( the pond has been reclaimed). The movement consists of a few minor fractures and small depressions (less than 18" deep) along the northeast edge of the reclaimed pond.

A monitoring network has been established in the area to monitor any further movement. Details of the monitoring sites are shown on Figure 3.2J-1 and Table 3.2J-1. It is proposed to monitor the area biannually through 1999. If no additional movement in excess of 0.5' is noted during that time, the monitoring will be discontinued. If additional movement of 0.5" or greater does occur during this time, the need for further monitoring and/or repairs to the area will be reevaluated by the company and the Division.

The cause of the slump is unknown. The slump occurred above some portals. The Division and the Permittee speculate that the slump was cause by the portals collapsing. The Division and the Permittee do not consider the slump to be a hazard to people or the

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environment.

The monitoring program will help the Division and Permittee determine the cause of the slump. Once the cause has been established, the Permittee can develop a reclamation plan.

**Finding:**

The Division determined that the Permittee's plan to monitor the slump for two years and the formulate a reclamation plan is adequate.