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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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OK

August 9, 2002

TO: Internal File

THRU: Joe Helfrich, Team Lead *JH*

FROM: Michael Sufflita, Reclamation Specialist *MS*

RE: Midterm Review, Castle Gate Holding Company, Castle Gate Mine, C/007/004-MT02

**SUMMARY:**

The Utah Regulatory Program rules require a midterm review of all mines. This Technical Memo is a review of the Castle Gate Mine midterm review. There are no deficiencies.

**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**

**RECLAMATION PLAN**

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

**HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-515, -301-532, -301-533, -301-542, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-751, -301-760, -301-761.

**TECHNICAL MEMO**

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**Analysis:**

**Sediment control measures**

A field visit was made to Sowbelly Canyon. The reclamation has been proceeding well over the last 6 years. Vegetation has grown with considerable diversity. While the plant density varies somewhat over the entire project, overall it's clear no sediment is being lost from the site. The mounds and depressions are still at about 50 % their original height since Utah is a desert and the last two years have been drought years. The reclaimed area is at least as good, or better, than surrounding native areas.

A field visit was made to Hardscrabble Canyon. The reclamation there was implemented in phases over the last 6 years. It's apparent the more recent areas have not developed as much vegetation as the older areas. The plant diversity is good and the mounds and depressions continue to retain moisture and prevent runoff. It's clear no sediment is being lost from the site.

A field visit was made to the Adit No. 1 area. Reclamation has not begun here, but is expected to next month. The reclamation plans have been approved by the Division and were reviewed during the visit.

It's clear that this mine has been, and continues to, use the Best Technology Currently Available.

**Findings:**

The mine has been, and continues to, meet minimum regulatory requirements with regard to using the Best Technology Currently Available.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Castle Gate Mine has passed the Midterm Review with regard to Hydrologic issues, especially using Best Technology Currently Available.