

OGMCOAL - Fwd: Re: First Qtr Water Monitoring for Willow Creek and Castle Gate

From: April Abate
To: OGMCOAL@utah.gov
Date: 10/19/2011 10:57 AM
Subject: Fwd: Re: First Qtr Water Monitoring for Willow Creek and Castle Gate
Attachments: 08152011.pdf; 20110818100112.pdf; TECH-004.pdf; April Abate.vcf; April Abate.vcf

April A. Abate*Environmental Scientist III*

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 W. North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

*T: 801.538.5214**M: 801.232.1339*

Starting Tuesday, September 6, 2011, our agency hours will be
8am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

>>> April Abate 8/18/2011 9:39 AM >>>

Hi Dennis,

Here are your 1st Quarter water quality reports for the Castle Gate and Willow Creek mines. I made a recommendation for you to discontinue winter quarter monitoring at both locations, since access continues to be an issue. There is some guidance in the Division's Technical Directive -004 that recommends post-operational sampling of perennial or intermittent stream sites twice per year. I'll attach that for you to review as you see fit. I guess it will come down to whether you feel it is worth the effort of making the trip to those canyons each winter to attempt to collect samples, or the administrative effort of changing the MRPs - your decision there.

We did have a rather interesting water year and in some cases even at this time of year, there are intermittent streams that are still flowing at some of our other sites. I agree with your lab that the higher than average flow are what caused a lot of the parameters to show anomalies. I did find out that our database calculates standard deviations on a cumulative basis and not on just the baseline data alone. I am going to be bringing that up at our next hydrologists meeting. If you have any additional thoughts about this topic, please send them my way.

Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions about the reports or if you would like to discuss these points even further.

Thanks Dennis!

Regards,
April

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Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

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>>> Dennis Ware <dware@alphanr.com> 6/27/2011 2:40 PM >>>

April,

The 1st Qtr. 2011 water data for the Castle Gate and Willow Creek permits is ready to upload into the official database. The Willow Creek samples (B151 and B3N) had a significant number of parameters that were outside 2 standard deviation. I spoke with the lab about this issue and was told it likely related the high flow (spring runoff); the creek was running well above the Crest Gauge and was very muddy. I am interested to know how the water database calculates the standard deviation. What samples are in the calculation? Is it all previous samples or just base line data?

Regards,

Dennis Ware

435-650-2951