



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

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April 6, 2001

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: Susan M. White, Senior Reclamation Biologist, Team Lead *SMW*

RE: Silo Demolition, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine,  
 [REDACTED] M01B

**SUMMARY:**

An amendment from Plateau Mining Corporation was received by the Division on March 5, 2001. The proposed amendment adds about one acre to the Star Point disturbed area for demolition of the unit train loadout coal storage silo. The current Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP), Technical Analysis, and submittal was reviewed and only those sections requiring changes are included in this technical memo. The amendment must include a revision to the MRP prior to approval.

**TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**

**OPERATION PLAN**

**FISH AND WILDLIFE INFORMATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.21, 817.97; R645-301-322, -301-333, -301-342, -301-358.

**Analysis:**

The unit train loadout silo has been idled and the conveyor removed for over a years. There is some chance that a species of concern (i.e. raptors or bats) have moved into the silo during this time. The permittee must commit to having a qualified person look in and around the silo prior to demolition. A plan will be developed if any species of concern are found.

TECHNICAL MEMO

**Findings:**

Information provided in the amendment is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Prior to approval, the permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

**R645-301-358**, a commitment must be made to survey the silo prior to demolition for animal species of concern.

**RECLAMATION PLAN**

**REVEGETATION**

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 785.18, 817.111, 817.113, 817.114, 817.116; R645-301-244, -301-353, -301-354, -301-355, -301-356, -302-280, -302-281, -302-282, -302-283, -302-284.

**Analysis:**

**General Requirements**

Seed mixtures have been designed to correspond to the different plant communities found in the disturbed areas. If the areas are drill seeded, they will be seeded at a rate of one-half that given in the seed mixture tables. However, most areas will be broadcast seeded to maintain the surface roughness. Five seed mixtures (Tables 341.220a through 341.220i) will be used for final reclamation seeding. These are:

<u>Name of Mixture</u>	<u>Table No.</u>	<u>Areas of Use</u>
Forest Service Areas	341.220g and h 341.220i and j	Gentry Mtn Shaft Mudwater Canyon Breakout Corner Canyon Fan
Unit Train Loadout type)	341.220a and b	Unit train loadout area (saltbush
Mountain Grassland	341.220c and f	Star Point No. 1 Mine Area, Lion Deck Portal Area
Sagebrush Area	341.220c and d	Refuse Pile, Topsoil Stockpile, Lower Office, Wash Plant, Conveyor, Lion Deck Portal Access Road

These areas are also shown on Maps 341.100g thru 341.100i.

Performance standards require the vegetative cover to be comprised of species native to the area, have the same seasonal characteristics of growth, and be capable of plant succession. The seed application timing, seed mix species and rates are not conducive to establishing a vegetative cover to meeting the performance standards. The following items must be changed:

- Crested wheatgrass, yellow sweetclover and alfalfa must be deleted and suitable native species added.
- Seeding rates must be between 40 and 100 seeds per ft<sup>2</sup>.
- The warm season species in the seed mixture must be seeded between June 1 and August 1.

**Findings:**

Information provided in the amendment is not considered adequate to meet the requirements of this section. Prior to approval, the permittee must provide the following in accordance with:

**R645-301-353**, the seed mixture, rates and timing must be changed to encourage vegetative cover that is comprised of species native to the area, have the same season characteristics of growth and be capable of plant succession.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The application may not be approved until the requirements of **R645-301-353** and **R645-301-358** have been satisfied.