



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

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October 2, 2001

TO: Internal File

THRU: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Wayne Western, Senior Reclamation Specialist/Engineering *WHL*
Priscilla Burton, Senior Reclamation Specialist/Soils Specialist *PB*
Gregg Galecki, Reclamation Specialist/Hydrologist *GG*
Karl Houskeeper, Reclamation Specialist/Engineering *KJH DJS*
Susan White, Senior Reclamation Specialist/Biologist *SW*

RE: Technical Field Visit to the #1 Mine Site, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, C/007/006

Other Attendees: Johnny Pappas, Plateau Mining Company

Date & Time: September 18, 2001, 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the field visit was to review plans and on-the-ground reclamation of the #1 Mine area. The contractor, Nielsen Construction, had just begun backfilling and grading operations the day of this visit. It is estimated that the reclamation will require the grading of 60,000 to 100,000 yds³ of material.

OBSERVATIONS:

We walked the #1 Mine Road from the top to the bottom of the site. Reclamation Watersheds & Diversions Map 761b shows the reclaimed contours of the site and was referred to many times during the day.

TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

Final shaping of the backfill was discussed with Mark Greenhalgh, (Nielsen Construction), Johnny Pappas, and Division technical staff. Discussions included:

- Leaving concave and complex slopes
- Reducing straight lines
- Shaping the drainages
- Disturbed and undisturbed drainage interface
- Installation of "pyramat", a geotextile fabric
- Alignment of channels
- Surface roughening
- Seeding and mulching.

The contractor had four trackhoes, three rock trucks, and a small farm tractor on site.

The contractor, the permittee, and the Division discussed how the perimeter of the site should be reclaimed. For example, the contractor was told to have the contact between the top of the backfill and the undisturbed ground be uneven instead of a straight line. The toe of the backfill needs to be feathered into the steep slope. This is done to minimize the effects of the nick points.

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

The representative from Nielson Construction, Mr. Greenhalgh, was very receptive to comments and suggestions from the DOGM staff. There was a good rapport between the Permittee, the contractor, and DOGM staff that should translate into a positive outcome for reclamation of the site.

Photos from this field visit may be viewed on the internet at:
<ftp://dogm.nr.state.ut.us/PUB/MINES/Coal/C007/006/IMAGES/09/18/2001/>