



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

May 14, 2018

Karin Madsen, Resident Agent  
UtahAmerican Energy, Inc.  
P.O. Box 910  
East Carbon, Utah 84520-0910

Subject: Conditional Approval of Topsoil Text Revision, UtahAmerican Energy, Inc., Horse Canyon Mine, C/007/0013, Task #5674

Dear Ms. Madsen:

The above-referenced amendment is approved conditioned upon receipt of 2 clean copies prepared for incorporation. Please submit these copies by June 14, 2018. Once we receive these copies, final approval will be granted.

A stamped incorporated copy of the approved plans will also be returned to you at that time, for insertion into your copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5325.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock  
Coal Program Manager

DRH/sqs  
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## Technical Analysis and Findings

### Utah Coal Regulatory Program

**PID:** C0070013  
**TaskID:** 5674  
**Mine Name:** HORSE CANYON MINE  
**Title:** TOPSOIL TEXT REVISION

#### Operation Plan

##### Mining Operations and Facilities

*Analysis:*

The amendment meets the State of Utah R645 requirements for Mining Operations and Facilities.

R645-301-535, R645-301-553 - The previous plan as described in section 232.500 of Permittee's MRP proposed a scenario where an impervious membrane is placed between the subsoil and overlying gravel. The purpose of this liner would be to protect the subsoil from oil spills or other contaminants that may leak into the ground beyond the gravel liner. Conceptually this would yield favorable results in almost all scenarios, but in this case the plot in question is on a 10% grade, and installing an impervious liner under these conditions is impractical to both install and eventually reclaim. The gravel layer will serve as the primary means of protection for the subsoil without any liner beneath. Precautions will be taken to avoid contamination, and in the event that a spill should occur the contaminated soil will be disposed of at a sanitary landfill.

jeatchel

##### Topsoil and Subsoil

*Analysis:*

The application meets the requirements of 234.200, because Chapter 2, Section 232.500 of the MRP (page 13) states that the subsoil material will be stored in place and protected by asphalt, concrete, or gravel. The plan states that precautions will be taken to avoid contamination. Further, contaminated soils will be disposed of at the landfill.

The Division notes that subsoil is currently stored in-place beneath al pads at the site and beneath the topsoil pile. Subsoil will be used as root zone material (Section 241) and provide cover over the underground development waste (MRP, Sec. 536.900).

pburton

##### Topsoil and Subsoil

*Analysis:*

jeatchel