



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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## Memorandum

To: Joseph Helfrich, Permit Supervisor *JH*

From: David Darby, Reclamation Specialist *DD*

DATE: August 19, 1997

RE: Abatement Plans, NOV N97-47-1-1, Sedimentation Pond,  
Gordon Creek 2, 7 and 8 Mines, Mountain Coal Company,  
ACT/007/016-97A, Carbon County, Utah  
*HJ*

### SUMMARY

Mountain Coal Company submitted plans to mitigate short-circuiting of flows through the sedimentation pond. The plans were required as mitigation of a Notice of Violation that occurred during an inspection June 17, 1997. Runoff from heavy rainstorms filled the cells of the sedimentation pond. Water levels encountered a layer of coal fines that allowed water to filter through the middle cell of the pond. The flow encountered a sink hole in the bottom cell of the lower pond where it flowed under ground for approximately 200 feet before surfacing.

### Analysis

Dan Guy, consultant to Mountain Coal Company proposed mitigation plans during an inspection on July 29, 1997 and Abatement, NOV N97-47-1-1

requested verbal approval, because reclamation activities had reached the pond and the equipment was available to conduct mitigation work. A copy of the plans were reviewed by the inspector, David Darby.

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The plans met the mitigation requirements outlined in the NOV and verbal permission was granted to initiate mitigation activities. An original copy of the mitigation plans was given to Pam Grubaugh-Littig for insertion into the file. Dan was told to submit a copy via mail directed to Pam.

The mitigation plans identify the problems causing the short-circuiting, the procedures to mitigate the problem and maps identifying where the problem occurred.

### **Findings**

The plans meet the mitigation requirements and are recommended for approval. A termination notice was sent on August 19, 1997.