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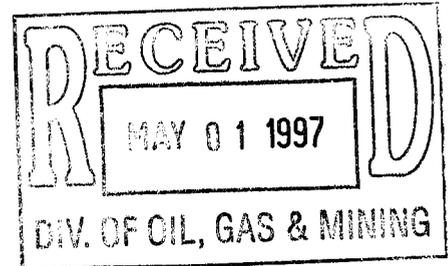


# **BLACKHAWK ENGINEERING, CO.**

Rt. 1, Box 146-H5 - Helper, Utah 84526 - Telephone (801) 637-2422

*December 31, 1996*

*Mr. Ben Grimes  
Cyprus Plateau Mining Corp.  
P.O. Drawer PMC  
Price, Utah 84501*



*Re: Annual Refuse Pile Report for MSHA  
Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile  
MSHA ID 1211-UT-09-00165-01  
Castle Gate, Utah*

*Dear Ben:*

*Enclosed are 4 copies of the Final Report for the Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile. This report is intended to satisfy the reporting and certification requirements of 30 CFR 77.215-2 and 77.215-3 for MSHA.*

*It is my understanding that 3 copies of the report should be submitted to MSHA.*

*If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please let me know.*

*Sincerely,*

*Dan W. Guy, P.E.  
President*

**CASTLE GATE MINE**

**ID NO. 42-00165**

**SCHOOLHOUSE CANYON REFUSE PILE**

**ID NO. 1211-UT-09-00165-01**

**1996 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile**  
**1996 Annual Report**

**General:**

The Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile is presently receiving refuse from the Willow Creek Mining Operation. The refuse is being generated by the Willow Creek Mine Preparation Plant.

The pile also continued to receive refuse from the reclaimed Willow Creek Pile, which was being moved to accommodate the new Willow Creek Mine portals. The removal is now complete.

The pile is graded regularly in lifts of 12" to 24". Ditches are established along the perimeter of the pile to provide positive drainage. The pile is graded to slope to prevent water impoundment.

The refuse pile was inspected and certified at least quarterly during 1996, as required. Copies of all inspection reports are included in Appendix A of this report.

All inspections were performed by John Borla, a qualified, registered professional engineer in the State of Utah, No. 172351.

**Reporting Requirements:**

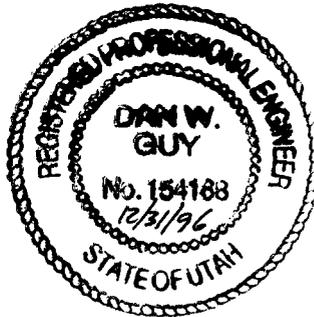
In accordance with the requirements of 30 CFR 77.215-2, the following information is provided:

- (1) A topographic map of the present extent of the active portion of the refuse pile at a scale of 1"=50' is included as Plate 1 of this report;
- (2) The refuse pile is not burning, nor does it exhibit any evidence of past burning;
- (3) Cross-sections of the active portion of the refuse pile are included as Plate 1 of this report;
- (4) The active portion of the pile appears free of extraneous material and is not impounding water;
- (5) No additional information pertaining to the stability of the pile has been requested by the District Manager.

**Certification:**

In accordance with the requirements of 30 CFR 77.215-3, and based on results of required inspections, the following certification statement is herein provided:

*"I hereby certify that, based on my survey and review of the inspection results provided to me, the Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile is being constructed in accordance with current, prudent engineering practices to minimize the probability of impounding water and failure of such magnitude as to endanger the lives of miners."*



Dan W. Guy  
Registered Professional Engineer  
State of Utah No. 154168

Castle Gate Mine  
Schoolhouse Canyon Refuse Pile

12/31/96

***APPENDIX A***

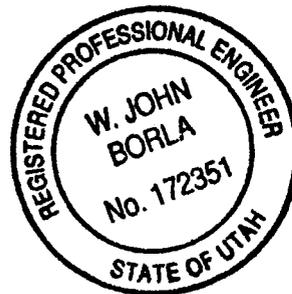
***REFUSE PILE INSPECTIONS***

**AMAX Coal Company**

**Quarterly Refuse Pile Certification  
First Quarter, 1996**

I hereby certify that I am a registered professional engineer in the State of Utah. I certify that I have made an inspection of the coal processing refuse pile at AMAX Coal Company's Castle Gate Mine in Carbon County Utah. The refuse pile has been constructed and maintained as designed. There are no apparent areas of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions. The piezometer monitoring wells on the first and second terraces are dry.

*John Borla* Date: 3/29/86  
John Borla P.E. #172351



**AMAX Coal Company**

**Quarterly Refuse Pile Certification  
Second Quarter, 1996**

I hereby certify that I am a registered professional engineer in the State of Utah. I certify that I have made an inspection of the coal processing refuse pile at AMAX Coal Company's Castle Gate Mine in Carbon County Utah. The refuse pile has been constructed and maintained as designed. There are no apparent areas of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions. The piezometer monitoring wells on the first and second terraces are dry.

John Borla Date: 7/22/96  
John Borla P.E. #172351

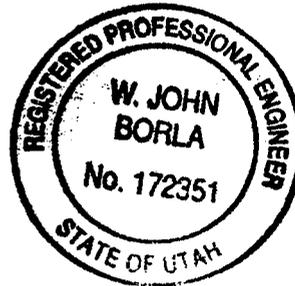


**AMAX Coal Company**

**Quarterly Refuse Pile Certification  
Third Quarter, 1996**

I hereby certify that I am a registered professional engineer in the State of Utah. I certify that I have made an inspection of the coal processing refuse pile at AMAX Coal Company's Castle Gate Mine in Carbon County Utah. The refuse pile has been constructed and maintained as designed. There are no apparent areas of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions. The piezometer monitoring wells on the first and second terraces are dry.

John Borla Date: 10/16/96  
John Borla P.E. #172351



AMAX Coal Company

Quarterly Refuse Pile Certification  
Fourth Quarter, 1996

I hereby certify that I am a registered professional engineer in the State of Utah. I certify that I have made an inspection of the coal processing refuse pile at AMAX Coal Company's Castle Gate Mine in Carbon County Utah. The refuse pile has been constructed and maintained as designed. There are no apparent areas of instability, structural weakness or other hazardous conditions. The piezometer monitoring wells on the first and second terraces are dry.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Borla P.E. #172351

Date: 12-30-96

