



# United States Department of the Interior

SL-064903

## GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Office of the Area Mining Supervisor  
Conservation Division  
8426 Federal Building  
125 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah, 84138

May 12, 1976

State of Utah  
Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Gentlemen:

The Geological Survey has the responsibility of supervising operations on Federal coal leases. Reclamation and final abandonment of the property are a part of this responsibility. The Swisher mine is on Federal coal lease SL-064903.

Your tentative approval of the reclamation plan for the Swisher No. 4 mine, section (B)(2), requires that, "All mine portals and ventilation openings will be sealed with concrete blocks and mortar to prevent unauthorized entry."

This proposal is satisfactory for temporary closure but is not adequate for final abandonment. Pressures cause the block stoppings to crack and fall out. Additionally, a man with a large hammer can break a block stopping in a few minutes.

Attached is a copy of the standards of this office for permanent abandonment of mine openings. This type of closure will be required for all openings on Federal coal leases.

If you have any comments, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,

*Jackson W. Moffitt*  
Jackson W. Moffitt  
Area Mining Supervisor



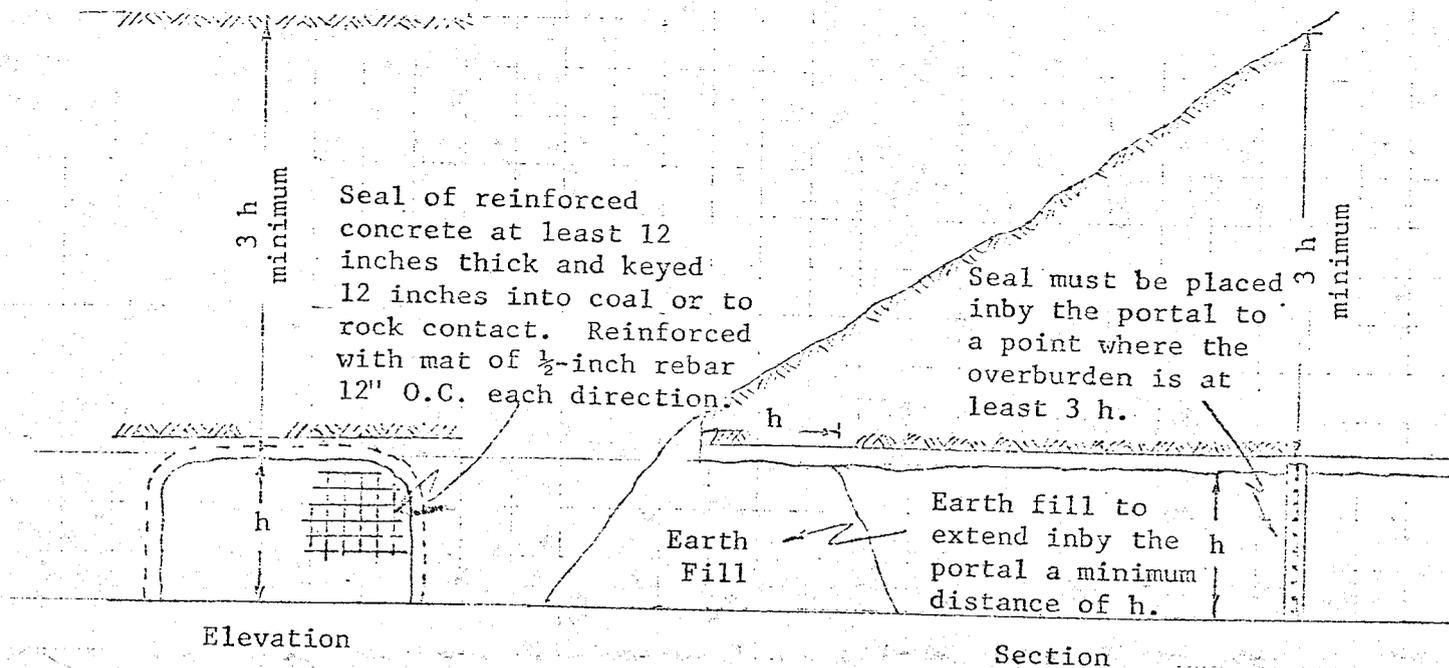
**CIRCULATE TO:**

- DIRECTOR -----
- PETROLEUM ENGINEER -----
- MINE CONTROLATOR -----
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT -----
- ALL -----

RETURN TO *Scherie*  
FOR FILING

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS  
 PERMANENT CLOSURE OF DRIFT OPENINGS  
 WESTERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION  
 BRANCH OF MINING OPERATIONS

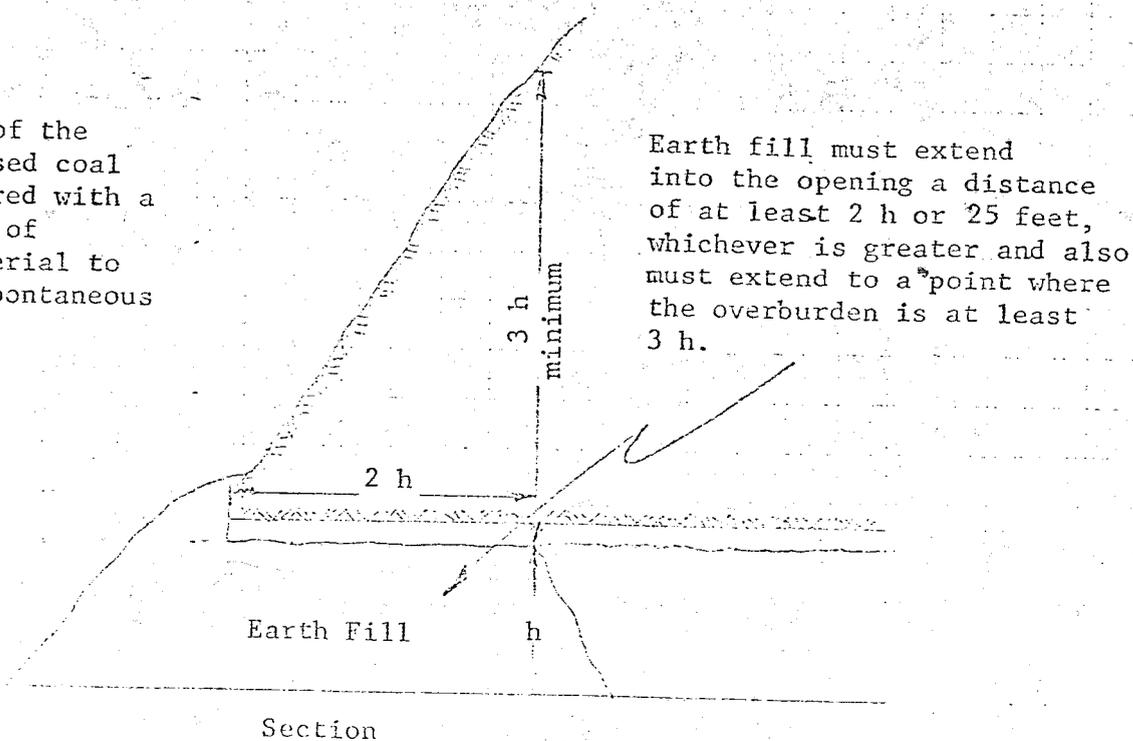
EXHIBIT I



METHOD I

Note:

On abandonment of the property all exposed coal beds must be covered with a minimum of 4 feet of incombustible material to protect against spontaneous combustion.



METHOD II