

September 23, 1985

TO: Coal File

FROM: Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Reclamation Engineer *pgl*

RE: Huntington #4 Site Visit, Beaver Creek Coal Company,  
Huntington #4 Mine, INA/015/004, #2 and #14, Emery  
County, Utah

Members of the A Team (Betty Barela, Jim Fricke, Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Ev Hooper, Tom Munson, Rick Smith and John Whitehead) visited the Huntington #4 reclamation site on September 10, 1985. The purpose of the visit was to observe the "reclamation in progress" at this mine site. The mine site encompasses upper and lower pads and an access road.

Coal waste was being moved off-site from the lower pad. Backfill against the lower pad highwalls was being tested for compaction with a nuclear density meter.

Hydromulch was being applied to the slopes and road area adjacent to the upper pad. Some of the hydromulch was applied over the new transplanted shrubs. A dozer was ripping the pad and road area. Two people were planting the bare-root stock.

Upon inspection of the backfilling and grading of the upper pad area, there seemed to be a discrepancy in how the approved reclamation plan had been carried out. The road had been ripped and some of the dirt from the road placed against the highwall. The plan stated that the Cat 235 would reach downhill over the slope and place this material against the highwall. This would eliminate vehicles from traveling on the road, but moreover, produce a slope that approximates original contours.

Coal remained exposed along the highwall near the northern boundary of the disturbed area. The coal outcrop must be completely backfilled and covered.

The ripping of the road did not seem adequate for good plant growth. The rocky environment may be difficult for vegetative success.

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All of the structures have been removed from the mine site.

Inspectors should be wary of signing off on the reclamation site because of methods utilized to achieve reclamation.

btb  
cc: Lowell Braxton  
A Team  
Tom Wright  
9075R-21 & 22