September 30, 1985

TO: File

FROM: James Leatherwood, Soils Specialist

RE: Genwal Coal Company, ACT/015/032, Emery County, Utah

On September 23, 1985, Lynn Kunzler and James Leatherwood of the Division visited the Genwal Coal Mine. The lower bench and surrounding areas was generally in poor condition due to unsightly refuse. The potential area for the future structure site consisted of an alluvial fan with good vegetation growth. Vegetation consisted of a fir-aspen mix with a good understory of grass and forbs. The areas' condition is stable with no signs of heavy erosion. No ephemeral stream channel was found on this alluvial fan. The area had a high percent (25% visual estimate) of large boulders. The topsoil is a deep (12") loam with a lighter color loam subsoil. It is recommended that 12 inch of topsoil be removed and stockpiled. Subsoil should also be removed and stockpiled in a separate individual stockpile. This soil material is in good condition with no evidence of any vegetative reclamation problems.

The second site visited was the topsoil stockpile in the lower parcel of the Crandall Canyon. Vegetation is a grass mix with a 40 percent cover (visual approximation). Signs of topsoil erosion is apparent offsite from the stockpile. Due to the movement of topsoil materials under the strawbales, it is evident that the straw bales that act as a berm on the topsoil stockpile is ineffective as a sole means for erosion control. Reseeding for a high vegetative cover density is required for a good control or topsoil protection from wind and water erosion.

jvb
0437R-5