

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES  
1311 FEDERAL BUILDING  
125 SOUTH STATE STREET  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84138-1197

(ES) October 21, 1983

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Acting Deputy Administrator  
Office of Surface Mining  
Denver, Colorado  
Attn: Louis Hamm

FROM: Acting Field Supervisor  
Ecological Services  
Salt Lake City, Utah

SUBJECT: 1983 Vegetation Study and Map for the Convulsion Canyon  
Mine. UT0026-48

RECEIVED  
OCT 21 1983

DIVISION OF  
SURFACE MINE RECLAMATION

We have reviewed the subject study and productivity information and, as a result, we have the following questions:

- It is unclear how the Company intends to physically replace and contour soils and then reseed the breakout areas. Although a detailed plan is not required to be a part of the coal mining and reclamation plan due to the size of the area involved, the Company should specify whether these sites will be backfilled from within the portal and how surface work will be accomplished. Is 16 lbs/acre adequate to revegetate breakout areas using (presumably) broadcast methods? Serious consideration should be given to planting appropriate tree and shrub species if the sites are right.
- Are the performance standards for reclamation adequate for the portal yard to stabilize the soils, or will performance be based on the productivity study? Our concerns are that 12 lbs/acre will be reachable but it may not be adequate to control soil losses.

*Robert C. Garrison*

cc: UDWR, SLC, Utah  
UDWR, Cedar City, Utah  
UDOGM, SLC, Utah  
RO/HR, Denver, Colorado