April 13, 1982

Memo to File:

RE: Westwater Humus Mines
ACT/019/012
Grand County, Utah

On April 5, 1982, Tom Tetting and Susan Linner of the Division met with Gerry Turner, and Jack, Floyd and LaRell Baker, partners in the proposed operation. A tour of the proposed minesite was conduted. We came into the site from the west end, the area where mining would begin. Several pits have been excavated in the area to expose the humate layer. Mineable humates usually occur in 8-12 foot layers close to the surface of small hills. Under capstone the humate layers are only a couple feet thick and probably not economically recoverable. The fossil layer which has been discovered lies above the humate layer below the capstone so it will probably not be greatly affected by mining. Brigham Young University has expressed interest in having a graduate student on-site if and when the fossil layer is disturbed.

During the mining operation, the top 6"-8" layer of soil and humates will be removed and stored for use in revegetation. Only 15-20 acres will be mined at a time and will be reclaimed as soon as the next parcel is begun. The Bureau of Land Management is going to put in a revegetation test plot.

The Bureau of Land Management has decided to hold a competitive sale for 1.12 million metric tons of humate material on 250 acres. Should Baker Associates, Inc. be the successful bidder it is the decision of the Bureau of Land Management to allow them to proceed upon receipt of a permit from the State of Utah. The mine site is approximately 2 miles south and 1 mile east of I-70 at the Westwater exit.

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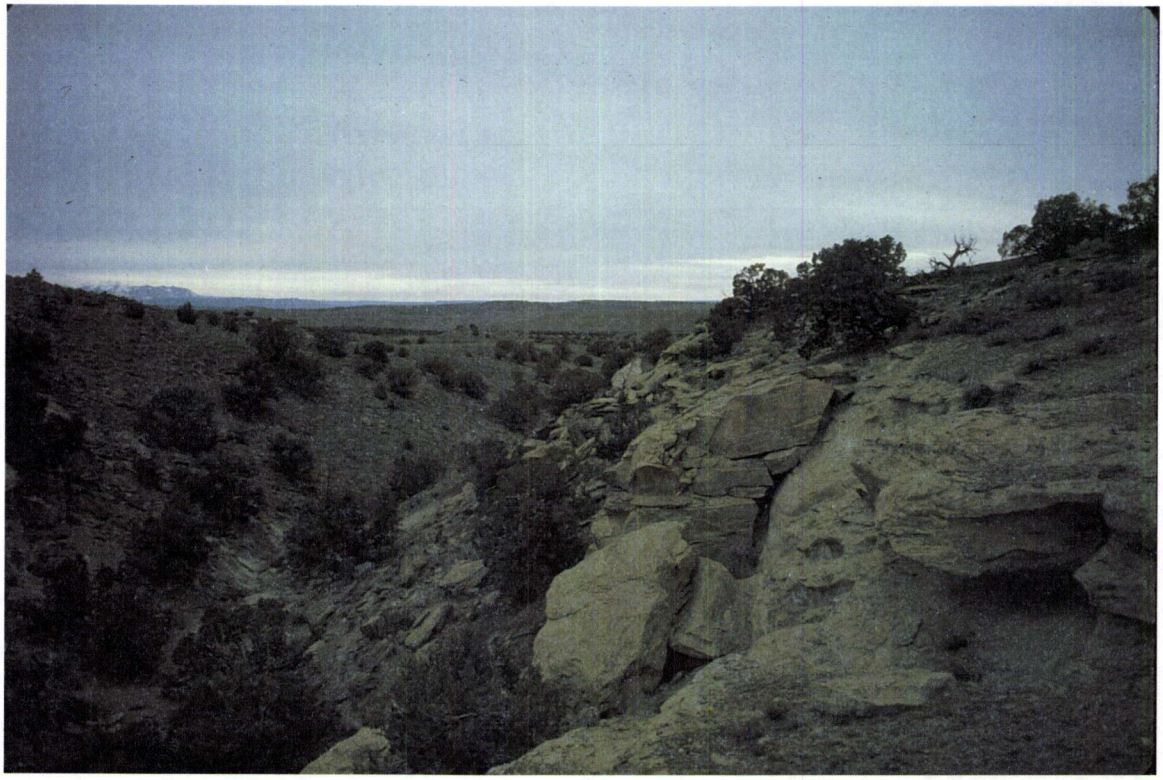
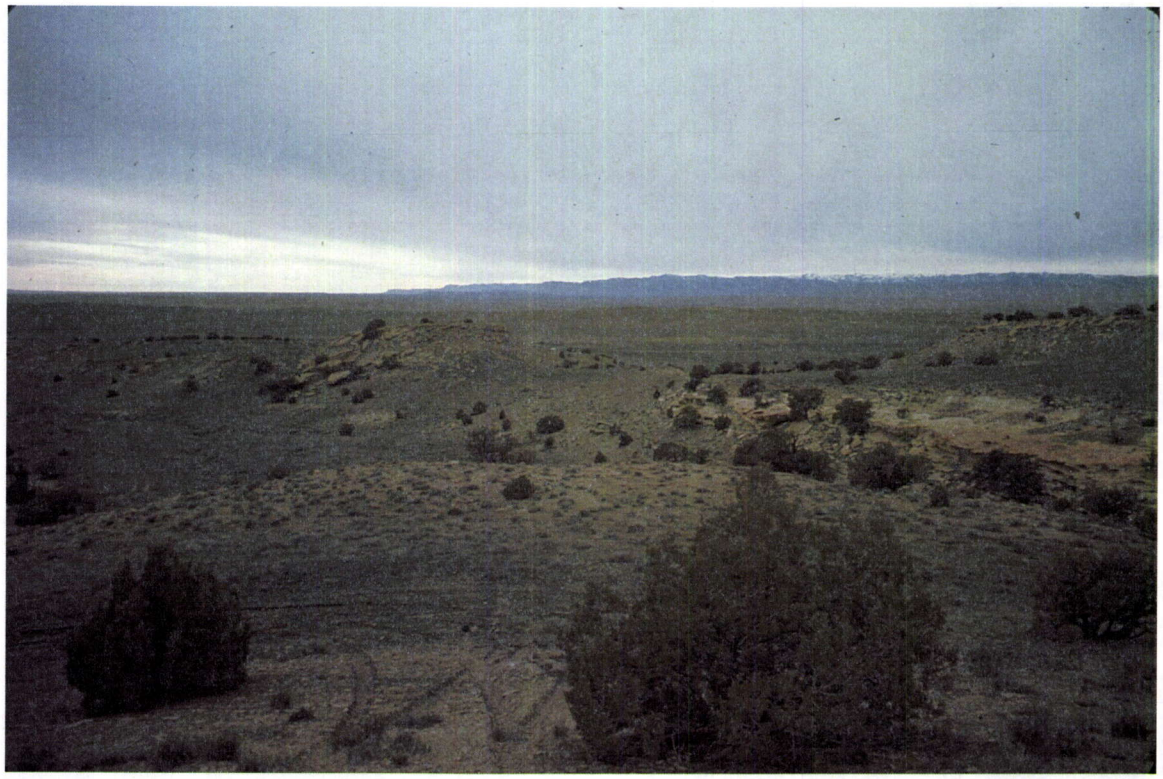
SUSAN C. LINNER
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

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