State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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July 3, 2003

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

RE: Site Inspection, Absolute Mining and Minerals, AMMI Mine, S/019/035, Grand County, Utah

Date of Inspection: May 29, 2003
Time of Inspection: About 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Conditions: Cloudy, 98 degrees
Participants: Paul Baker (DOGM)

Purpose of Inspection:

I was in the area and decided to visit the site to see how vegetation was growing in the areas reclaimed last year.

Observations:

So far, revegetation success is mixed. I found only a few seedlings in the lower reclaimed area, but there were a lot of seedlings in some parts of the upper area. Although I attempted to photograph the vegetation, the photo does not show it well (Photo 1).

Near the shop building, there was some Russian knapweed (Photo 2). This is a perennial, rhizomatous noxious weed that is difficult to control.

There has apparently been quite a lot a water come down the drainage that crosses the access road near the mine. Although the culvert was not washed out, water overtopped the road (Photo 3).

Conclusions and Recommendations:

For now, the Division and the operator should monitor the vegetation. Some remedial action might be necessary in the future, but this could wait even if little becomes established.

The operator should attempt to control the Russian knapweed although it is too late to begin this year. It would be best to begin a spraying operation in the fall (if there is rain) or early next year.

jb
cc: Dale Snyder, Absolute Mining and Minerals
Denice Swanke, Moab BLM
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Utah!
Where ideas connect

ATTACHMENT
Inspection Date: May 29, 2003; Report Date: July 3, 2003
Photographs
S/019/035, AMMI Mine, Absolute Mining and Minerals

Photo 1. A portion of the upper reclaimed area.

Photo 3. Culvert under the access road near the mine.

Photo 2. Russian knapweed near the shop building.