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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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News Release  
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### STATE TO SECURE ABANDONED COAL MINE

Salt Lake City - The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program (AMRP) is planning the Bluebell Mine Reclamation project in Uintah County, Utah. The Bluebell site is located about 9 miles northeast of Vernal and about 1.5 miles west of Red Fleet Reservoir in Uintah County.

The United States Department of Interior Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) dealt with an underground mine fire at the site in 1983. A recent maintenance inspection by AMRP found a small recurrence of burning coal that is venting combustion gases. The project is designed to extinguish the fire by excavating, spreading and cooling the burning coal waste, replacing and compacting the material. The disturbed area will be covered with soil material which will be graded to blend in with the existing slope and revegetated. Work is expected to take place this fall.

The project is funded by the federal abandoned mine reclamation fund administered by the OSMRE. If you have questions or comment, contact the Project Manager, Louis Amodt at (801) 538-5360.

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