FORMER COAL PROCESSING SITE TO BECOME CITY PARK

Salt Lake City, Utah -- A former coal processing and loading facility in Carbon County is slated to become a city park primarily due to the efforts of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining’s Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program. The Knight-Ideal loadout facility on the southeast side of Wellington was abandoned in the 1950s. The site has been used as a dumping ground for demolition debris and is littered with a large amount of coal refuse, but after clean up Wellington intends to develop the property into a city park.

The more-than $1.1 million cleanup project will get underway October 9th and is expected to be completed by late November 2012. “About 10-percent of the coal refuse on site is of sufficient quality to be recovered for its energy value,” explained project manager Chris Rohrer. “It will be excavated, segregated and hauled to a processing facility, while the rest will be excavated and buried onsite in engineered landfill disposal cells.” The site will then be regraded and revegetated.

“We’re excited to lay the foundation for a city park that can be enjoyed by the residents of Wellington,” added Rohrer. “Thanks to the cooperative effort among several parties this weedy mess will be returned to a beneficial use.”

Contractor for the project is Kent Bethers Construction of Heber City.