

# Details



## September 2, 2010

### Customer Service

Gregg Galecki from Arch Coal's Skyline Mine passes on a big "Thank you" to the coal staff who worked on recent amendments to a fan portal at Winter Quarters. He contacted team lead Priscilla Burton to find out how the review was going, and if he needed to provide additional information. To his surprise he was pleased to hear that the review had been completed and the project approved more than a month ahead of the due date. Thanks to Priscilla, Jim Smith, James Owen, and Ingrid Campbell for getting this done so quickly! Also thanks to Suzanne Steab, Jo Ogea, Angela Nance, and Daron Haddock for their support roles!

### Coal

Most of the Coal Staff have been involved with a project to re-do some reclamation at the White Oak Mine, a bond-forfeiture site where reclamation was accomplished by the AMR Program. Because of the way it was mined, the lack of suitable topsoil, and some very big storms, some substantial erosion problems have developed over the past few years. The team worked together to come up with some innovative ways to re-contour some areas and get something to grow there using the limited funds left in the forfeiture account. Two pre-bid tours were held last week, with a large group of contractors attending. Bids are due on September 2, and we hope to get the project underway by the 15th. Those involved in the project are: Pete Hess, April Abate, Priscilla Burton, Joe Helfrich, James Owen, Ingrid Campbell, Kevin Lundmark, Jim Smith and Daron Haddock. Also thanks to the AMR Program for helping the team through the bidding process.



(See story below.)

Daron reports that field season is definitely upon us. On August 23rd, Steve C., Ingrid C., April A., Priscilla B. and Daron H attended a midterm review of the Dugout Canyon Mine. Part of the field exercise was to look at some reclaimed gob vent drill pads that were above the mine site. The sites look pretty good. Also on August 31, Pete H., Jim Smith, Ingrid C., and Daron H. attended a phase III bond release inspection at the Cottonwood fan portals and the Miller Canyon fan portals. This inspection was attended by a number of people including mine representatives, landowners, BLM, Forest Service, and EPA. Again these sites looked pretty good. Even though some of the terrain was pretty steep, the hike in was great and once again proves that the worst day in the field is better than the best day in the office. See the above photo from August 31.

## **Minerals**

Wayne Western has brought to our attention that the National Mining Association has released their latest state-by-state ranking of coal and mineral production. Utah currently stands at number 14 out of the 26 coal-producing states, providing 2.1% of the total production in the U.S. However, mineral production has moved up a notch from number four to number three with just over seven percent of the total mineral production in the country. The ranking is based on the value of raw material produced, in Utah's case \$4-billion, surpassed only by Arizona and Nevada.

Meanwhile, Paul Baker attended a meeting last week in Denver with the EPA and representatives from several states. The topic was potential bonding under CERCLA of mine sites for release of hazardous substances. CERCLA contains a provision preempting state bonding requirements where the EPA holds a bond for release of hazardous substances, and the states have concerns that their regulatory programs will be affected.

## **AMR**



Steve Fluke and Luci Malin staffed a Division outreach booth in Kanab at the Western Legends Days festival on August 26 and 27. Besides seeing Clint Walker (Cheyenne), James Drury (The Virginian) and listening to endless bad kareoke performances, the wind was amazing. They saw more cops (sheriffs, city police, SWAT teams, US Marshals, Boarder patrol, even some DWR officers, etc.) than you've ever seen in one place

before - due to the big manhunt for Curly.

The "Products of Utah" display was a hit! The display emphasizes that mined and petroleum products are part of our everyday life.

Examples of products produced from the mineral/ore and paired with the rocks. A piece of Gypsum is with a piece of dry wall; halloysite is used as insulation in spark plugs, beryllium is used in electronics, fluorspar provides fluoride used



in  
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toothpaste, mica is used in make-up, we have a hunk of rock salt and a bottle of Real Salt from Redman. We match a jar of crude oil with Chapstick, candles, shampoo, a golf ball (there is plastic in the middle).

When we talk about the slogan "If it wasn't grown it was mined!" we get a lot of head scratching - think about it!



And a final thought for your Thursday. The definition of buffet: a French word that means "get up and get it yourself." Have a good one!