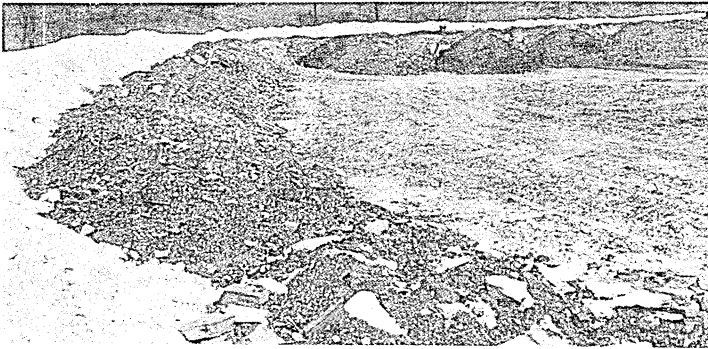


COMPACTION OF COAL REFUSE TO MINIMIZE ACID DRAINAGE



Coal refuse disposal showing coal refuse deposited behind a clay face wall and on top of a previously deposited layer of coal refuse which has been leveled and thoroughly compacted by the directed travel of refuse trucks.

MINING METHOD: Underground mining - wet coal preparation.

LOCATION: Western Pennsylvania, Freeport Seam Coal.

RESULT ACHIEVED: Coal refuse deposited in this location does not produce appreciable acid drainage. Much of the rainfall on the pile flows off over the surface rather than through refuse material.

DESCRIPTION: The coal refuse deposited on this pile contains a relatively large amount of acid-producing material, and when deposited in a haphazard fashion can produce appreciable quantities of acid drainage. The refuse is produced in a coal preparation operation and has a top size of about 4 inches with sufficient fine material for good compaction. Additionally, the refuse shows excellent weathering characteristics so that exposure to atmospheric conditions for a few months will soften the refuse and aid compaction.

In the construction of this refuse pile a face wall of earth is deposited about 4 feet high at the outer edge of the pile. The back of the pile is sealed against
(over)