



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
BROOKS TOWERS
1020 15TH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

0006

March 25, 1982

Mr. James Smith
Coordinator of Mined Land Development
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is in response to your March 5, 1982 letter informing this office of the Division's intent to approve plans allowing Valley Camp, Inc. to mine Federal coal contained in main entry systems in their Belina No. 2 Mine.

Our difficulty in approving this action has been based on the fact that Valley Camp has an existing permit issued in 1977 under 30 CFR 211 for the Upper O'Conner Seam contained within the Belina #1 Mine but not expressly for the Lower O'Connor Seam and that Valley Camp lacks a complete mine plan for the Belina Complex, i.e. Belina #1 and #2. Further, we believe that administrative delay due to the lack of the applicant's timely completion of the mine plan application cannot be used to permit continued mining of Federal coal for an indefinite period of time.

We have considered this situation and decided that it is proper for OSM to approve a minor modification to the existing Upper O'Conner Seam 211 permit (Belina #1), allowing mining of Federal coal in the Lower O'Conner Seam of the Belina Complex for a limited period of time. The approval is for mining of main entries and on the advance only as indicated by the shaded area on the enclosed map prepared by the Minerals Management Service and labeled "Belina #2 Mine Progress Map, One Year Projection" (D2-0060) dated October 12, 1981. This approval terminates upon final decision of the permit application and mining plan or December 31, 1982, whichever comes first.

The decision was based on the following information: 1) Valley Camp has stated in its February 23, 1982 letter to the Division that it intends to complete the ACR response by May 31, 1982; 2) there will be no additional surface disturbance due to this action; 3) there are no anticipated environmental impacts associated with this approval as stated in the Division's March 5, 1982 letter to OSM; 4) Minerals Management Service has concurred with the mining of main entry systems as defined on the enclosed map; 5) diligent efforts will be made by all parties to issue a decision on the permit and mine plan application for the Belina Complex prior to December 31, 1982.

(File) ACT/007/001
Copy to Tamm,
*(Ran, Jack, Me)
JIM
*(letter only)
RECEIVED
w/maps
MAR 29 1982

The following schedule is proposed in order to complete the permit action by December, 1982:

1. Valley Camp completes, to the extent possible, the response to the ACR no later than May 31, 1982.
2. June 1 - August 31, 1982: OSM Contractor prepares Technical Analysis (TA).
3. September 1 - September 30, 1982: Division/OSM reviews contractor's work and revise TA as necessary.
4. October 1 - October 31, 1982: OSM prepares EA and materials required for Decision Package.
5. November 1, 1982: Decision Package forwarded to Headquarters for approval.

This approval for a minor modification is solely for the purpose of maintaining production at the existing mine. The approval in no way affects the applicant's responsibility to develop a complete mine plan pursuant to Utah and Federal law. Valley Camp will conduct all mining operations in compliance with all laws, regulations, stipulations and other requirements applicable to its current operation.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Dawes
Acting Administrator
Western Technical Center

Enclosure

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT
REGION V—BROOKS TOWERS, 1020 15th STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202

Two copies of "Belina No. 2 Mine
Progress Map, one Year Projection,
Oct. 12, 1981" attached. One is
for the Division, the other for
Valley Camp.

Document Information Form

Mine Number: C/007/0001

File Name: White Oak - Incoming

To: James Smith

From:

Person Richard E. Dawes

Company OSM

Date Received: 3/29/82

Explanation: Map - Belina No. 2 mine progress Map.

cc: