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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office  
P.O. Box 45155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155

RECEIVED

APR 22 2002

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS AND MINING

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3480  
(UT-923)  
UTU-044076

April 8, 2002

Dan Meadors  
Skyline Mine Manager  
Canyon Fuel Company, LLC  
HC 35 Box 380  
Helper, Utah 84526

*Incoming  
2/067/005  
Copy from (2-sided)  
PFD, Mike*

Re: Approval of the Minor Modification to develop longwall Panels 12 Left "A" and 12 Left "B" in Skyline Mine #3 Level 2 and approval of extraction of coal in these panels except under the old "Lawrence Reservoir site".

Dear Mr. Meadors:

Background: On April 19, 2001 BLM modified Federal Coal Lease UTU-044076 by 121.5 acres at the request of Skyline Mines and included what is known as the old Lawrence Reservoir Site. This was a Bureau of Reclamation withdrawal that was relinquished in the 1960's. Skyline Mine #3 has an approved plan to mine the 12 Left Panel in Federal Coal Lease UTU-044076 located in the Lower 'O Connor' "B" seam. This panel was approved to be approximately 860 feet wide by 2760 feet long. At the request of BLM, Skyline Mines has re-evaluated the mining geometry and now requests a modification to the R2P2. This modification will change the geometry of the panels and include coal in the lease along with some of the coal that was leased in the modification that included the old Lawrence Reservoir site. The modification will include 2 panels, 12 Left "A" which will be 595 feet wide and 4750 feet long and 12 Left "B" which will be 680 feet wide and 1900 feet long. With this new geometry, there will be an increase of over 850,000 tons of coal to be recovered over the existing approved mining layout.

Approval: BLM approves the development and longwall recovery in the panels with the following **exception**, that no secondary recovery at this time is authorized in the area that underlies Burnout Creek and the old Lawrence Reservoir site. The Forest Service did not analyze the impacts of full extraction mining under this area in their consent to include these lands as part of a lease modification. Because of this fact, BLM is in the process of determining NEPA adequacy in order to determine if any additional stipulations that may be required to mine under this area. BLM has already started working on this issue that will satisfy the requirements of Stipulation #13 of the Lease.

NEPA: This approval is Categorical Excluded as a minor modification to an existing mining plan because there will be no new surface disturbance in this area as stated in, Overview of BLM's NEPA Process, February 1997, Appendix 2, page 2-7 (F)(7).

Conditions of Approval. BLM will require that a 22 degree angle of draw plus 25 feet be maintained from the edge of the longwall panel to the high water level of Electric lake. No full extraction is authorized in this area.

If you have any questions, please call Stan Perkes at 539-4036.

Sincerely,

/s/ James Kohler

James F. Kohler  
Chief, Solids Minerals Branch

Enclosure  
Approved Mine Map

cc: Price Field Office  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, DOGM, P.O. Box 145801, Salt Lake City, Utah,  
84114-5801 (Attn. Mary Ann Wright)

12LB

12LA

11L

U-044

Old Lawrence Reservoir site

Springs

Canyon

Burnout

PIPELINE (NOT IN SERVICE)

Electric Lake

Spring

KEY



Area not approved for full extraction covered under this approval



old Lawrence Reservoir site

MINING

MINING PLAN APPROVED BY BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By: [Signature] 4/17/02  
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By: [Signature] 4/17/02  
Manager (Date)

Electric

Spring

F N000

F N000