

DOGMA
1 of 7

PLATEAU MINING COMPANY

PROPOSAL

VENTILATION PORTALS IN CORNER CANYON

JUNE 18, 1982

PROPOSAL: CORNER CANYON VENTILATION PORTALS

PURPOSE:

Plateau Mining Company (PMC) has previously requested permission to break out in Seeley Canyon for ventilation purposes. Approval of that request was granted in October, 1980.

The purpose of that request was described in PMC's proposal dated February 4, 1980, entitled "Ventilation Portals in Seeley Canyon". In essence, breakouts were to supply air intake capability to the mine in the newly developed areas. Currently, air is drawn into the mine two to three miles away from the working areas and is returned to the outside the same distance. (These portals are located in Mud Water Canyon.)

The mining effort during 1981 and the first five months of 1982 was in the direction of Seeley Canyon. In approaching the proposed surface breakout location, burned coal was encountered at a distance from the surface far greater than anticipated. The effect of the burn on the associated rock structure in the burned zone has created conditions which appear extremely hazardous and would necessitate great expense to cross.

After closely evaluating the ventilation requirements for the mine, it was determined that breakouts in Seeley Canyon would not be necessary if breakouts could be made in the South Fork of Corner Canyon. (This evaluation was based on the use of a computer-simulated mine model for ventilation with input coming from a recently completed total mine ventilation survey and from mine fan maximum output levels.) Without the breakouts in Seeley Canyon, the limits of the ventilation network would be reached just prior to breaking out in the Corner Canyon Site.

This information led to the examination of Corner Canyon as a potential site to meet ventilation requirements for the mine. Recent geologic mapping shows outcrop of the three mineable seams within the lease area in this canyon. The coal outcropping, although very localized, leads one to believe that any burning in the area would not be as extensive as that encountered in Seeley Canyon where no outcropping was exposed.

It is the belief of PMC that mining to the outside in Corner Canyon is certainly going to be less of a problem, from the economic view as well as being less hazardous, than would be mining out in Seeley Canyon. It is for these reasons that Plateau Mining Company proposes breakouts in the South Fork of Corner Canyon.

These portals would allow the air intake to be considerably closer to the bulk of Plateau's fifty million tons of recoverable coal on federal leases. They would reduce the distance over which the air would need to travel before reaching the working places. This would (1) improve ventilation at the face providing better and safer conditions for the miners to work in and (2) reduce ventilation costs. In addition, these portals would allow for additional emergency escapeways to the surface.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON:

Floyd J. Tucker
Executive Vice President &
General Manager
P.O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-2875

COAL LEASES:

The coal leases under which Plateau Mining Company mines coal are:

Federal Coal Lease SL 031286
Federal Coal Lease U 7949
Federal Coal Lease U 13097
Federal Coal Lease U 37045
Utah State Coal Lease 22729

SURFACE OWNERSHIP:

The land surface under which the proposed entries will be driven and onto which the portals will be driven is public land administered by the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Manit-LaSal National Forest. The responsible official is:

Reed C. Christensen, Forest Supervisor
Maniti-LaSal National Forest
Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-3547

LOCATION:

T15S, R7E, Sec. 12
(See Location Map - Map No. 1)

MINING PROCEDURE:

Plateau Mining Company is currently driving entries to the west off 2nd Main North across its Federal Lease SL 031286 in the Wattis (top) Seam. (See Map No. 2) This set of entries will parallel the proposed 1st West Main entries that will eventually provide possible access to additional reserves to the west. This set of entries will be isolated from the mains by a solid barrier of coal 200 feet in width. This barrier will provide adequate protection in the event of pillar extraction and/or separating intake and return air courses.

Mining will be accomplished by continuous miner room-and-pillar methods. The entries will be on 80 foot centers with cross cuts approximately 80 feet apart. No faulting or other geologic occurrences are anticipated.

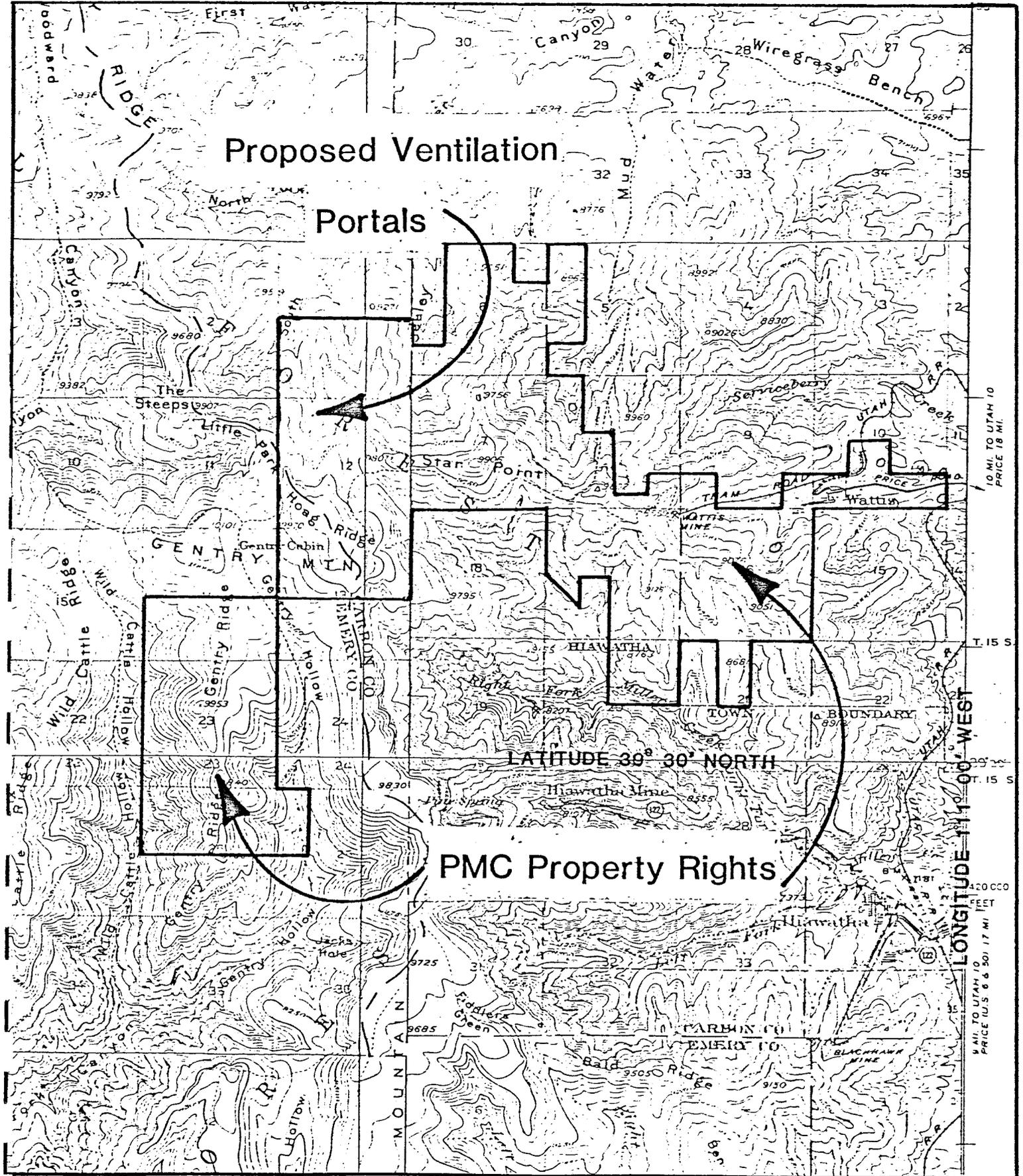
BREAK-OUT PROCEDURE:

Upon approaching the outcrop, Plateau will take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of the men as well as supporting the working areas.

Proposed Ventilation

Portals

PMC Property Rights



LOCATION MAP

Adequate roof support may include any or all of the following:

- Roof bolts
- Timbers
- Square sets
- Steel or wooden cross bars w/legs
- Other support as deemed necessary.

Plateau would like to retain the option of breaking out with all five entries or with as many as economically and/or feasibly possible. All excavated materials would remain in the mine, nothing being allowed to go down the hill. It may be necessary to have cross bars or other roof support materials in the portal mouths to ensure stability and prevent sloughing materials from blocking the openings. These materials, however, will be minimal.

BREAK-OUT SITE:

The breakout portals will be used for both intake and return ventilation purposes. The initial use of the entries, once they are developed outside, will be for intake. During the coming construction season, a deck area will be constructed of the size to adequately enable the construction and operation of a mine fan. This deck area will be located adjacent to the No. 5 portal entry and will comprise an area of approximately 50 feet wide by 100 feet long along the horizon of the portals. Structures on this deck may include any or all of the following:

- Fan
- Motor House
- Fan Housing (and associated structure)
- Power/light poles
- Transformers

Construction of these structures may involve the use of helicopters. There will be no road tracks to the site, the only access from the outside being by foot. Any approach to the site would only be done from inside the mine thereby eliminating foot traffic on presently existing trails, if there be any. (The portals will be posted against trespassers.)

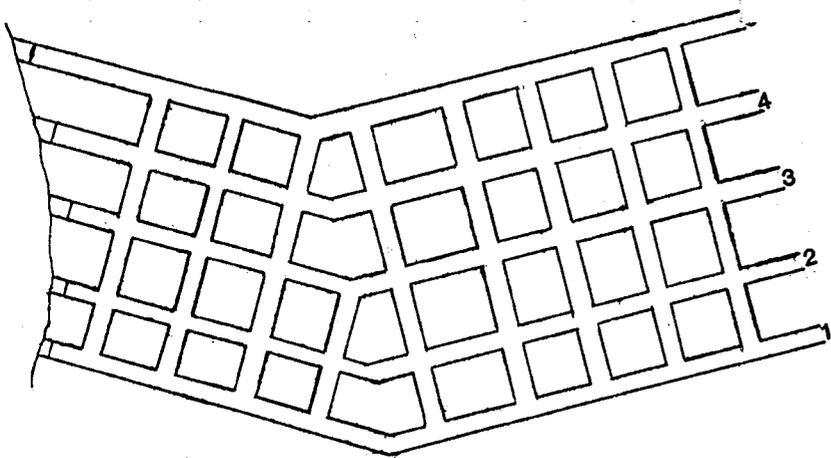
UPON COMPLETION OF DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION:

Following the construction of the portals and fan installation, four of the five portals will continue to be intake airways. The one portal with the fan will be a return airway.

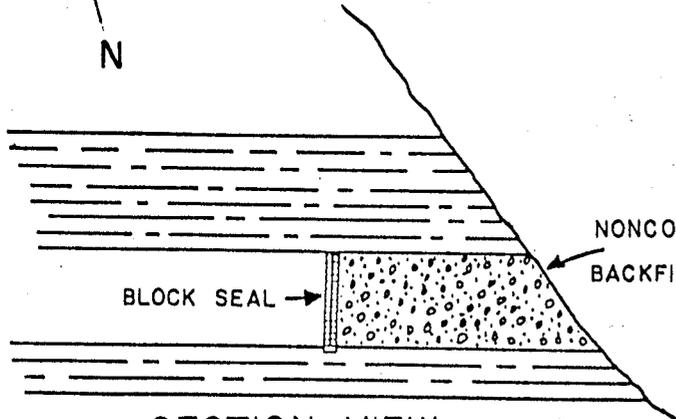
Future ventilation requirements for the mining of the three seams in this area may dictate additional portal work in Corner Canyon in the future. For this proposal however, construction would be restricted to the Wattis Seam development.

FINAL ABANDONMENT:

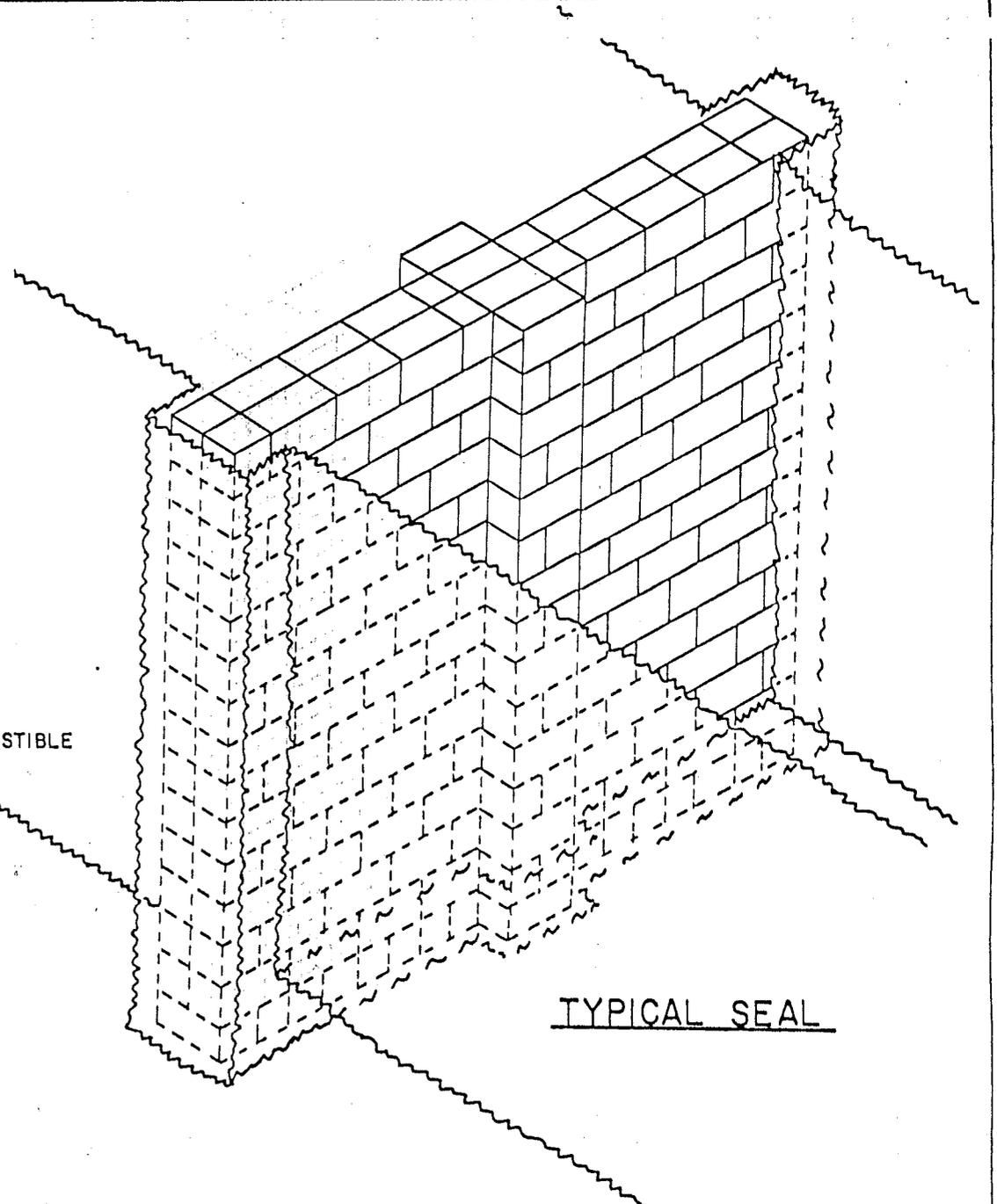
When the need is no longer existent or the mine is abandoned, the structures will be removed and the portals sealed according to U.S.G.S., D.O.G.M. and O.S.M. specifications. These are detailed in drawing No. 3. Reclamation seeding as outlined in the approved comprehensive mining and reclamation plan (MRP) will then occur.



PLAN VIEW



SECTION VIEW



TYPICAL SEAL

PLATEAU MINING CO.

PORTAL SEALS

DWG. NO. 3