



0043

United States Department of the Interior

Mine File
D.W. Hedberg
S. C. Lerner

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District

Price River Resource Area

P. O. Drawer AB

Price, Utah 84501

3400

(SL-029093-

046653)

(U-066)

Mr. Kenneth B. Hutchinson

Chief Engineer

Price River Coal Company

P. O. Box 629

Helper, Utah 84526

RECEIVED

JAN 27 1986

DIVISION OF OIL
GAS & MINING

ACT/007/006
#2
JAN 23 1986

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

In our December 24, 1985 approval letter concerning sequence changes in Price River Nos. 3 and 5 mines a typographic error was made in the regulation cited in the third paragraph. The reference should be 43 instead of 93 to read 43 CFR 3482.1(c)(3)(iv) and 3482.3. The regulation covers requirements for sealing and abandonment of operations.

There are additional regulations that must be met in abandonment procedures. To satisfy the Maximum Economic Recovery (MER) of the mine in abandonment procedures, 43 CFR 3482.1(c)(7) must be satisfied. Also 43 CFR 3484.2(b), entitled "Completion of operations and permanent abandonment", must be satisfied as well as any other regulations pertaining to abandonment, MER, or protection of coal resources.

Prior to placing seals for abandonment, as stated in the December 24, 1985 letter, a plan must be approved.

In your discussion with Allen Vance and Jeff Clawson here on January 15, 1986 when you introduced Richard Allison of AMAX, you indicated that the fan in Willow Creek Canyon, which ventilates the old Kenilworth and Castle Gate mines, will soon be shut down. With the fan running, these mines have been considered as active mine works. To stop the fan would be considered an abandonment of operations, at least temporary if not permanent, and you should address your plans in accordance with the regulations as referred to above.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Allen Vance of my staff at 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Leon E. Berggren

Leon E. Berggren
Area Manager

cc:

MDO (U-065)

USO (U-921)

OSM

DOGM