

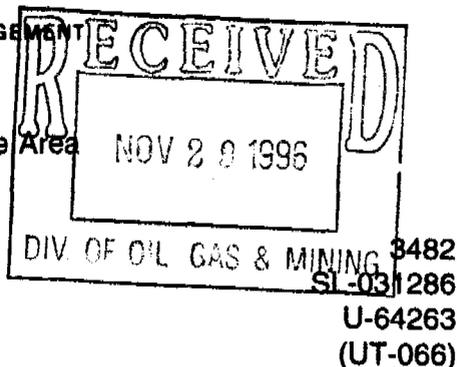
0504



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District
Price River/San Rafael Resource Area
125 South 600 West
P.O. Box 7004
Price, Utah 84501



Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested
Certificate No. Z 382 123 818

Mr. Tom Hurst
Mining Engineer
Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation
P. O. Drawer PMC
Price, Utah 84501

NOV 26 1996

Re: Minor Modification to Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), 8th Left Longwall Recovery Room, Starpoint No. 2 Mine

Dear Mr. Hurst:

Open file Act/007/006 #2

On October 31, 1996, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a request from Cyprus to modify the approved R2P2 for the subject mine. The modification is for the 8th Left longwall panel located on Federal coal lease U-64263.

Cyprus requests to extract the 8th Left longwall panel one crosscut short of the planned recovery room. Poor roof conditions at the planned extraction room, crosscut 5, associated with a fault zone are stated as justification for the shortening of the longwall panel.

An inspection by BLM personnel of the area in question was conducted on November 5, 1996. A fault zone was noted intersecting the 8th Left gateroads on an acute angle to the gateroads. This fault is the west extension of the fault zone crossed in the 3rd North Mains. Many parallel fractures were evident in the area of the fault. The main impact was poor roof conditions in the crosscut between the belt entry and the intake entry of crosscut 5. Fractured roof rock had caved into the crosscut and rib cutters were very evident along the pillar. The crosscut was heavily cribbed and extra roof support had been installed.

Crosscut 5 would have been the main roadway to extract the longwall machinery from the face. This crosscut is unstable due to the fractured nature of this fault zone. The BLM agrees that a potential safety hazard exists in this area, especially the area that would be heavily travelled when extracting the longwall. The temporary roof support of cribs would have to be moved to allow the extraction machinery to access the face and the weakened roof may be susceptible to added loading for the extended period of the longwall move. BLM agrees that extracting the longwall early at crosscut 6 would avoid the safety risks of the fault area.

The BLM has determined that the proposed modification complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. Cyprus's request to halt and extract the 8th Left longwall panel at crosscut 6, about 100 feet early, is approved. The recoverable reserve estimate for Federal coal lease U-64263 is reduced by approximately 20,000 tons. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk or George Tetrault of my staff at (801) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

MARK E. BAILEY

Area Manager

Enclosure
Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-921, SD, Utah (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 (w/encl.)

MINOR MODIFICATION TO
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:

Stephen W. Fell
Mining Engineering

11/26/96
(Date)

Approved By:

Mark E. Bailey
Area Manager

11-26-96
(Date)

