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United States Department of the Interior

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

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

27 DEC 1979

*File Copy  
Swisher Coal Co  
Gordon Cr. #2*

**RECEIVED**

DEC 31 1979  
DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Max A. Robb  
President  
Swisher Coal Company  
P.O. Box AU  
Price, Utah 84501

Dear Mr. Robb:

This letter is to confirm conversations of December 13 and 17, 1979, between Mr. Dan Guy of Swisher Coal Company and members of my staff. These conversations have dealt with Swisher Coal Company's proposed mining plan for a 70-acre expansion of the Gordon Creek No. 2 Mine within an emergency by-pass lease. Within the context of these discussions (and by letter of November 13, 1979), Swisher Coal Company has raised the question of whether OSM would treat this 70-acre expansion as modification to the existing mining plan that can be approved at the regional level.

I believe that OSM will be able to act on this proposal at the regional level, provided our analysis of the information Mr. Guy has been asked to submit shows that the impacts of the proposal have been adequately addressed in previous Departmental approvals and analyses. However, in order to confirm that this is a regional action and since this office must prepare a technical analysis to evaluate conformance of the mining plan with applicable regulations under the Surface Mining Act, we require a mining and reclamation plan for the 70-acre expansion. The plan should be submitted as soon as possible to this office. To expedite OSM action, I recommend that this mining plan be separate from the Gordon Creek No. 2 mining plan which has been prepared in response to stipulations of the original U.S. Geological Survey approval.

We will keep you up to date on our review of the mining and reclamation plan as soon as it is submitted. Please make the plan available to the State of

Mr. Max A. Robb

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Utah and us. We will need seven copies if possible. If you have further questions, please contact Dan Kimball or John Nadolski of my staff (303-837-3773).

Sincerely,

DONALD A. CRANE

cc: Ron Daniels, UT-DOGM ✓  
Jackson Moffitt, USGS, Salt Lake City  
Gene Day, BLM, Moab