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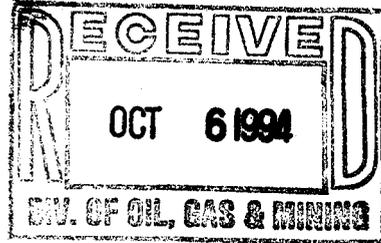
Pam

Route to ~~Price~~ / Wayne

Moab District
Price River Resource Area
900 North 700 East
Price, Utah 84501

file # 21/007/019 #2

3482
SL-027304
U-010581
(UT-066)



OCT - 4 1994

CERTIFIED MAIL - Return Receipt Request
Certification No. P 118 951 334

Mr. Laine Adair
Chief Engineer
Andalex Resources, Inc.
P. O. Box 902
Price, Utah 84501

Re: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2) Minor Modification, Longwall Panel No. 2

Dear Mr. Adair:

On August 23, 1994, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received from Andalex Resources, a request to modify to the approved R2P2 for the Pinnacle Mine in the Centennial Project. The subject minor modification addresses changes to a longwall panel located in the Gilson Seam on Federal coal lease U-010581.

Andalex proposes to divide the previous approved longwall panel No. 2 (located between 1st and 3rd North) into two shorter longwall panels, leaving an unmined block of about 1100 feet between. The two small panels will be extracted in sequence from east to west.

The justification for the modification to split the panel is due to a large rock parting encountered in the middle of the seam. The rock parting trends into the middle of the No. 2 panel and has been encountered both in the west and east tailgate entries. Andalex contends that longwall mining cannot extract the rock parting without damaging the machinery and producing an unacceptable quality coal product. Making two short panels on both sides of the rock parting is an alternative for the original panel.

BLM has conducted inspections of the area as mining has encountered the rock parting in a number of locations. The rock parting was witnessed a number of years ago in both the 1st North and 3rd North entries which defined the northern limits of the minable coal in the Gilson seam. Recent BLM inspections have noted the extent of the rock parting as the tailgate entries were mined from both the west and east directions. In both sides of the entries, the rock parting has increased from a bony coal band to a massive siltstone rock within 100 to 200 feet. The siltstone rock measured in excess of 2.5 feet in all the faces and was located in the middle of the coal section. Less than four feet of coal was above or below the rock parting.

Our analysis of the proposal is that further advance of the tailgate entries from either the west or the east to connect up is not feasible due to the size of the rock parting and the lack of coal height above and below the rock. The proposed location for the longwall takeout rooms for the east panel (proposed panel No. 2) and the starting rooms for the west panel (proposed panel No. 3) are at the limits of the rock parting. The proposed layout for the two short longwall panels is a logical plan to skirt the rock parting.

The BLM has one concern with this proposal. In forming two longwall panels, a rectangular block of recoverable coal reserves is formed between the extraction room of panel No. 2 and the starting rooms of panel No. 3. It is not known how far south the rock parting extends into this block. It is conceivable that substantial recoverable coal reserves exist north of the headgate entries. If both longwalls are mined out, overriding abutment pressures may render this area unminable.

The BLM cannot grant approval of this modification to the R2P2 until it is determined that maximum economic recovery (MER) of all Federal reserves will be achieved (43 CFR 3482.2(a)(2)). Andalex was verbally granted partial approval to drive the starting rooms for longwall No. 3. However, Andalex is not authorized to extract panels Nos. 2 and 3 until a plan addressing the recoverable reserves in the area in question (north of the headgate entries between crosscuts 16 and 24) is submitted and approved by BLM. A copy of the mine map is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk at (801) 637-4584.

Sincerely,

/S/ DEAN NYFFELER

Area Manager

Acting

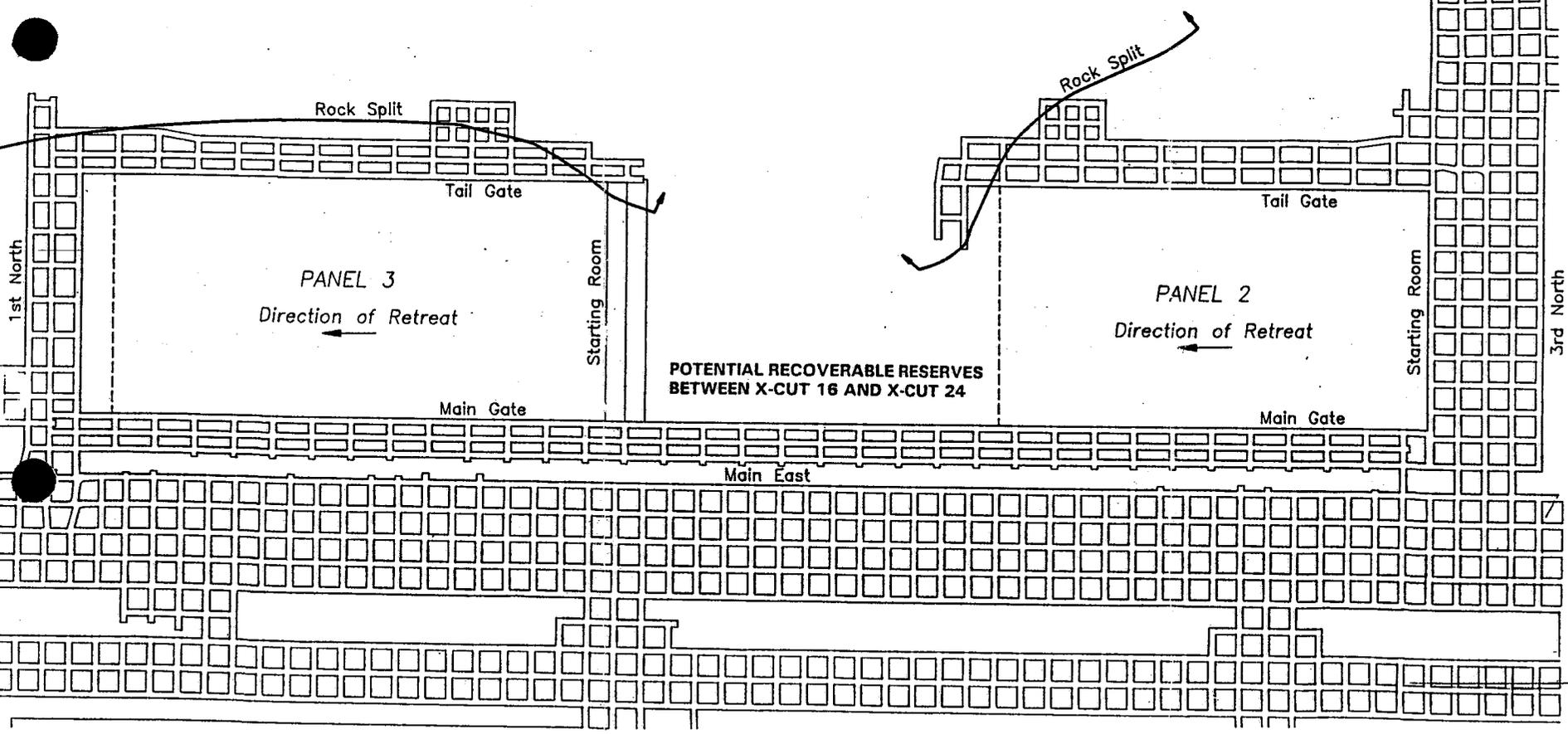
Enclosure
Mine Map

cc: UT-065, DM, Moab (w/encl.)
UT-921, SD, Utah (w/encl.)
Utah Department of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple Street
3 Triad Center
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 (w/encl.)

SFalk:sf:ks:10/03/94 WP ANDX#2LW.MOD

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C. J. ...
... ..

TOWER DIVISION MID-GILSON SEAM LONGWALL PANELS



Pinnacle Mine
Mid-Gilson Seam
Longwall Panel

SCALE:
100' 0' 200' 400'
AUGUST 25, 1944
L. C. ...



ANDALEX
RESOURCES, INC.
Tower Division