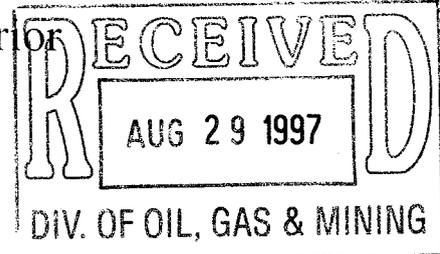




United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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



3482
 SL-027304
 U-66060
 (UT-066)

AUG 27 1997

ACT 1007/019 #3

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested
 Certificate No. Z 382 124 894

Mr. Michael Glasson
 Andalex Resources, Inc.
 Tower Division
 P. O. Box 902
 Price, Utah 84501

Re: Minor Modification to Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Longwall Mining Plan Revision, Aberdeen Mine

Dear Mr. Glasson:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received and reviewed the submitted supporting data in regards to the subject R2P2 modification request from Andalex for the Aberdeen Mine. The modification revises the main longwall mining block and development entries for the A seam located on Federal leases U-66060 and U-010581.

Andalex proposes to mine the remaining longwall panels along Main North with a panel/barrier/panel configuration. After abandoning panel #2 due to unsafe stress build-ups near the tailgate, alternative plans were designed. Mining consultants have recommended the submitted design as the best solution to mine longwall panels with reduced risk to dangerous bounces and bursts. In addition, the revised mining plans show the Main North entries situated further east in the new lease modification area, Tract 2 of lease U-66060, located in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 32, T. 12 S., R. 11 E., SLM, Utah.

The reason for the mine plan change is the dangerous stress build-ups in the current longwall layout which are well documented. We agree with the submitted documentation (report from Agapito Associates) and conclude that the current longwall panel design cannot be continued. The recommended and submitted design of a panel/barrier/panel layout is acceptable, as the data concludes that this layout has the least stress concentrations, and will most likely avoid serious face bursts. The BLM can see no different mining scenarios that would induce uniform caving of the upper sandstone and minimize face bursts.

The revised mining plan also shows the proposed Main North entry extension into the recently acquired coal lease modification on the east boundary of lease U-66060. The BLM has accepted

the submission as an amended R2P2 for the new lease modification area. As the purpose of the lease modification was to allow further main entry development along the thickness limits of the A seam, the BLM concurs with the plan.

The proposed modification from Andalex meets the requirements of 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. Andalex's longwall panel layout for the remaining longwall panels for the A seam is approved as submitted. Mining projections into the new lease modification area are also approved, as additions to the Aberdeen Mine R2P2 and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the modified Federal coal lease.

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 636-3600.

Sincerely,

Area Manager

Enclosure
Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-921, Utah State Office (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (w/encl.)
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
Office of Surface Mining (w/encl.)
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, Colorado 80202-5733

Open Federal Reserves

Mathis Family Reserve Holdings

Note:
If the longwall mining method proves successful at 2600' to 2800' of cover, additional reserves will be acquired and the longwall will continue to extract panels to the north of the existing reserve holdings as shown. Continuous miner production is not considered economical or practical at this depth of cover.

U-66060
TRACT II
LEASE MODIFICATION

Lower A Seam Isopachs

EXISTING COAL LEASE BOUNDARY

TOW
ABLE
PROD
LO

Note:
Mains will be developed west to the economical mining limit or property boundary.

Note:
Mains will be developed east to the economical mining limit or property boundary.

Upper A Seam Isopachs

MINOR MODIFICATION TO
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:

Stephen W. Falk 8/27/97
Mining Engineering (Date)

Approved By:
Richard L. Mann 8/27/97
Area Manager (Date)

LEGEND	
MINED PANEL	
BARRIER	
1997	
1998	
1999	
2000	
2001	

