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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Reclamation and Enforcement
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Denver, Colorado 80201-6667

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UT-0022

February 21, 2005

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining
Coal Regulatory Program
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

RE: Andalex Resources, Inc. - "Centennial" Mine - Application for a Permit Revision,
Mathis/Summit Creek Boundary Change

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining's (UT-DOGM) January 20, 2005, request for a decision, under 30 CFR 944.30, whether the above subject permit revision constitutes a mining plan modification.

Mining plan approvals by the Secretary of the Interior are required under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, 30 U.S.C. 181, *et seq.* before coal mining can occur on Federal lands. This letter serves to document OSM's determination whether or not a mining plan approval from the Secretary is required for the above permitting action.

OSM's review of the Application for a Permit Revision, Mathis/Summit Creek Boundary Change has determined that it proposes to add approximately 1,090 acres to the current Centennial mine, Utah State permit C/007/019. Of those acres, approximately 630 acres are contained in the Federal Summit Creek lease UTU-79975. The remaining 460 acres are in two adjoining parcels of which 380 acres are fee coal and 80 acres are State coal.

Based on a review of the activities associated with the permit revision, OSM has determined that the proposal does meet the requirements of 30 CFR 746.18(d)(3). Therefore, the proposed Mathis/Summit Creek Boundary Change does constitute a mining plan action requiring Secretarial approval. ✓

OSM's decision was based solely upon the Federal regulations under 30 CFR PART 746 and not the technical aspects of the revision application itself. Consequently, OSM's decision does not relieve UT-DOGM from coordinating the review and approval of the Application for a Permit Revision, Mathis/Summit Creek Boundary Change with other Federal agencies for compliance with other Federal regulations.

OSM also electronically transmitted the January 20, 2005, request to the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service for their review and comment.

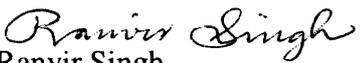
In an electronic transmittal dated January 21, 2005, the U.S. Forest service stated it had no comments or concerns with the Mathis/Summit Creek Boundary Change.

The Bureau of Land Management did not provide any comments in the thirty day time frame established by the Federal regulations under 30 CFR 944.30, Article VI. D.

Please notify the applicant of our decision on this matter.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or approval, please contact Carl R. Johnston, Utah Federal Lands coordinator, at (303) 844-1400, extension 1500.

Sincerely,


Ranvir Singh
Manager, Northwest Branch

cc: BLM - Utah State Office
BLM - Price Field Office
USFS - Manti-La Sal NF
Denver Field Division