



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District
P. O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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(U-065c)

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MAR 14 1991

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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple Street
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has reviewed the resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2) of the Permit Application Package for Blue Blaze Coal Company. Deficiencies were identified in the original plan which the company corrected through the submission of additional information directly to our office. This letter provides our comments and recommendations regarding the R2P2.

The original R2P2 and supplementary revisions are complete and technically adequate. However, the revised R2P2 shows projected mining development in the eastern portion of the permit area not considered in the original submission. Blue Blaze showed the first five years of mining, but not life of mine development. Revised mine plans show development projections into this area. Though mining in this area should have no different effect than other planned areas of mining, we feel you should be aware of the situation.

Before actual mining takes place, the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) of the Department of Labor must approve a roof-control and ventilation plan. This plan is an integral part of the R2P2 for coal recovery and is required by the BLM. As a condition of approval, Blue Blaze must submit copies of the ventilation and roof-control plans authorized by MSHA.

We have determined that the R2P2 is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulatory provisions of 43 CFR 3480, Federal lease terms and conditions, and the requirement for achievement of maximum economic recovery (MER) of Federal coal. Therefore, we recommend approval of the R2P2 for this new mine on condition noted above.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk or Gary Johnson in our Price Coal Office at (801) 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen W Falk

for Assistant District Manager
Mineral Resources

cc: SD, Utah (U-921)
DM, Moab (U-065)
AM, PRRA
Blue Blaze Coal Company