

0027

0002/020 Incoming  
CC: Dave D.



## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office  
P.O. Box 45155  
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155  
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3482  
UTU-74804  
(UT-923)

SEP 29 2009

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested 7008 1140 0000 3706 1185

Kit Pappas  
Manager Engineering/Environmental Services  
Hidden Splendor Resources, Inc.  
3266 South 125 West  
Price, Utah 84501

Re: Approval – Minor Modification to the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2),  
A-West Mains, Horizon Mine

Dear Mr. Pappas:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received on September 15, 2009, an R2P2 modification request from Hidden Splendor Resources for the subject mine. The proposed modification revises the mine layout by changing the direction of the A-West Mains and developing panels on Hidden Splendor's only Federal coal lease (UTU-74804). This mine was inspected by BLM on April 24, 2009 and July 23, 2009.

**Proposed Plan:** Hidden Splendor plans to turn the A-West Mains from the current northwesterly direction to due north. As anticipated in the currently approved R2P2, a fault was encountered in the southernmost entry (displacement of 22 feet) near crosscut 25. Once the section reached this point, the direction of the mining would avoid fault crossings and proceed to the right (north) in by a set of old works for approximately nine crosscuts. Two panels will be developed off of this north mains section to the west. The plan is then to connect back into B-West Mains to the southeast and then continue the driving of B-West to the west.

Reasoning behind this change was to avoid crossing the 22-foot fault in A-West Mains and to open the mine up to develop panels for room and pillar retreat mining.

**Approval:** The BLM agrees with the proposed change. The plan allows for development of panels for retreat mining and also provides for another set of mains (B-West) for enhanced ventilation and escape routes.

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2009

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed.

**Maximum Economic Recovery (MER):** Full extraction of recoverable coal reserves will enable MER of the Federal coal in lease UTU-74804 to be achieved.

**Recoverable Reserve Base:** The estimated recoverable coal base for Federal coal lease U-74804 is 5.6 million tons. There is no impact on the reserve base, by this modification, as these tons were included in the reserve estimates as retreat tons at the end of the mine life.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):** No new surface disturbance is predicted with this action, and therefore this action is Categorically Excluded (CX) from NEPA analysis under DM 516 chapter 11.5, paragraph F. (8): Approval of minor modifications to, or minor variances from, activities described in an approved underground or surface mine plan for leasable minerals (e.g., change in mining sequence or timing).

This R2P2 modification complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at CFR 3480, and the lease terms and conditions. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Rigby at the Price Field Office at (435) 636-3604 or Jeff McKenzie of my staff at (801) 539-4038.

Sincerely,

/s/ Roger L. Bankert

Roger L. Bankert  
Chief, Branch of Minerals

Enclosures:

Approved Mine Map  
R2P2 Modification Request of 9/15/2009

cc: UT-070, Price Field Office (w/ Enclosure)  
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (w/ Enclosure)  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

**Request**  
For  
**R2P2 (Resource Recovery and Protection Plan) Modification**  
**(One Mining Area)**

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**Today's Date:** 9/15/2009

**Proposed Implementation Date:** 9/15/2009

**Mine Name:** HORIZON

**Lease Number(s):** U-74804

**Suggested BLM Inspection date and time:**

**Major Undesirable event (Flood/Fire) ?** No

**Describe Situation Leading to Request:**

**Coal Seam:** HIAWATHA

**Mining Area (Section):**  
A-WEST

**Current Approved R2P2 Plan (current plan that the plan shows mining to xc number \_\_\_ etc):**

**Requested Change in the Approved R2P2:**

**Proposed Plan (Including effect on coal recovery):** TURN SECTION NORTH DUE TO FAULTING. NO EFFECT ON RECOVERY.

**Timing:**

**Enclosures:** MINE MAP

