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TELEFAX

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
PRICE FIELD OFFICE
125 SOUTH 600 WEST, PRICE UTAH 84501

OUR PHONE NUMBER: (435)636-3600
OUR TELEFAX NUMBER: (435)636-3657

TO: Attention: Pam

Branch/Office:

Company/Agency: DOGM

Destination Fax Number:

FROM: Stephen Falk

SUBJECT: Whitmore Coal Lease R2P2 approval

DATE AND TIME:

NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET:

COMMENTS:

Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501

3482
UTU-78562
(UT-070)

SWF

FEB - 1 2002

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor
State of Utah
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple Street, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Re: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Federal Coal Lease Addition, UTU-78562, West Ridge Mine, West Ridge Resources, Inc., ACT/007/041

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

The Bureau of Land Management has received and reviewed the subject R2P2 as part of the permit application package for adding Federal coal lease UTU-78562 to the approved West Ridge Mine Permit. This letter documents the Bureau's finding for the R2P2 and post-mining land uses as required by the laws governing the Federal coal lease and the public lands.

West Ridge has submitted mining and reclamation plans to add the new Whitmore Canyon coal lease (UTU-78562) to the existing West Ridge Mine. All access will be from adjacent underground mine workings and mining plans will extend longwall panels into the new lease. The R2P2 has been reviewed by this office and find it complete and technically adequate. All mining on this new lease will be underground, with no new surface facilities. The surface lands of this coal lease are either privately held or some public lands. Since no surface disturbance is planned or anticipated, the post-mining land use is compatible with the current land use plan and we have no post-mining land use concerns with this project.

Therefore, the BLM concurs with the submitted West Ridge Mine Plan addition with regards to post-mining land use and the protection of non-mineral resources. Also, the submitted R2P2 is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the lease terms and conditions, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. We recommend that the Secretary approve the R2P2 as part of the permit application.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of my staff at (435) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

/S/ THOMAS E. RASMUSSEN
Thomas E. Rasmussen
Field Manager

Actin-3

cc: Office of Surface Mining
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320
Denver, Colorado 80202-5733
UT-923, Utah State Office
West Ridge Resources, Inc.
P. O. Box 1077
Price, Utah 84501

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