



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Reclamation and Enforcement  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320  
Denver, Colorado 80202-5733

February 11, 2003

Ms. Pamela Grubaugh-Littig  
Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

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C/007/041

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RE: West Ridge Resources, Inc. - "West Ridge Mine, Incidental Boundary Change"

Dear Ms Grubaugh-Littig:

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) has completed its review of West Ridge Resources, Inc's February 7, 2003 application for an incidental boundary change to facilitate mining and reclamation operations at the "West Ridge" mine, Utah State permit C007/041.

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 and the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Minerals (UT-DOG M) have both received an application for this permit revision from West Ridge Resources, Inc. The permit revision proposes to add approximately 75 acres of "fee" coal east of Federal lease SL-068754 and south of Federal lease UTU-78562 to the approved permit area.

Based on a review of the activities associated with the permit revision, OSM has determined that the proposed permit revision does not meet the requirements of 30 CFR § 746.11(a) and 746.18(d). Therefore, since no Federal coal is involved, the proposed permit revision does not constitute a mining plan action requiring Secretarial approval. 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*  
Ranvir Singh  
Manager  
Northwest Branch

cc: Denver Field Division

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING