

From: "Carl Johnston" <CJOHNSTO@osmre.gov>
To: <DARONHADDOCK@utah.gov>
Date: 6/11/03 9:40AM
Subject: West Ridge Mine Plan Determination

Attached is OSM's preliminary determination regarding the above subject. A signed version will be sent to you in today's mail.

CC: <PAMGRUBAUGHLITTIG@utah.gov>

UT-0079

June 11, 2003

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

RE: West Ridge Resources, Inc. - "West Ridge" Mine - Application to Provide As-Built Drawings

Dear Mr. Haddock:

This in response to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining's (UT-DOGM) June 10, 2003, 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 to Provide As-Built Drawings has determined that it proposes to replace eighteen various maps and four tables of the existing permit with updated versions for the West Ridge mine, Utah State permit C007/041.

Based on a review of the activities associated with the permit revision, OSM has determined that the proposal is administrative in nature and does not meet the requirements of 30 CFR ' 746.11(a) and 746.18(d). Therefore, since no changes in the recovery of 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.

OSM's decision does not, however, relieve UT-DOGM from coordinating the review and approval of the Application to Provide As-Built Drawings with other Federal agencies for compliance with other Federal regulations.

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: Denver Field Division