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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
SL-068754, UTU-78562
(UT-923)

AUG 31 2005

Tracing
2/007/041

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested

Mr. John C. Lewis
Mining Engineer
West Ridge Resources, Inc.
P. O. Box 1077
Price, Utah 84501

RECEIVED
SEP 01 2005
BLM - OIL, GAS & MINING

Re: Minor Modification, Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Longwall Panel # 7, West Ridge Mine

Dear Mr. Lewis:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received from West Ridge Resources, Inc., (West Ridge) a request to modify the approved R2P2 by authorizing the full extraction of longwall panel # 7 (9th Right Headgate). The approval for proposed longwall panel # 7 was conditioned on West Ridge addressing subsidence and seismic issues related to the Grassy Trails Reservoir as per lease stipulation # 17. West Ridge has submitted a final report prepared by RB&G Engineering, which addresses these issues, as justification for mining the longwall panel. The area of panel # 7 is located on Federal coal lease UTU-78562 and some private coal lands.

The submitted report from RB&G concludes that it is unlikely that the anticipated mining of panel 7 would impact the performance of the dam and reservoir. The analysis of seismic impacts used a large maximum event (3.9 Richter Scale Magnitude) which is well above any recorded event in the immediate area. Using the maximum event, RB&G still anticipates a factor of safety still well above minimum Utah State Dam Safety standards. The BLM accepts the report and agrees with the recommendations. West Ridge is hereby authorized to extract longwall panel # 7 per the approved R2P2, having met the conditions for approval. Further longwall panels down dip of panel # 7 (scheduled to be mined later) are not approved pending seismic data results.

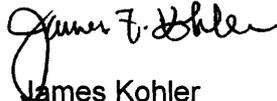
This approval of a minor modification to an existing R2P2 is Categorically Excluded from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis in that no new surface disturbance will occur from this action as stated in Overview of BLM's NEPA Process, February 1997, Appendix 2, page 2-7 (F)(7).

Longwall mining of panel # 7 complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. Approval is conditioned on maintaining the dam inspection and monitoring schedule as outlined on page 34 of the RB&G report. Also, this

approval does not release the lessee of any liability as outlined in lease stipulation # 17. A copy of the approved mine map showing authorization of panel # 7, is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of the Price Field Office at 435-636-3605 or Jeff McKenzie of my staff at 801-539-4038.

Sincerely,



James Kohler
Chief, Solid Minerals

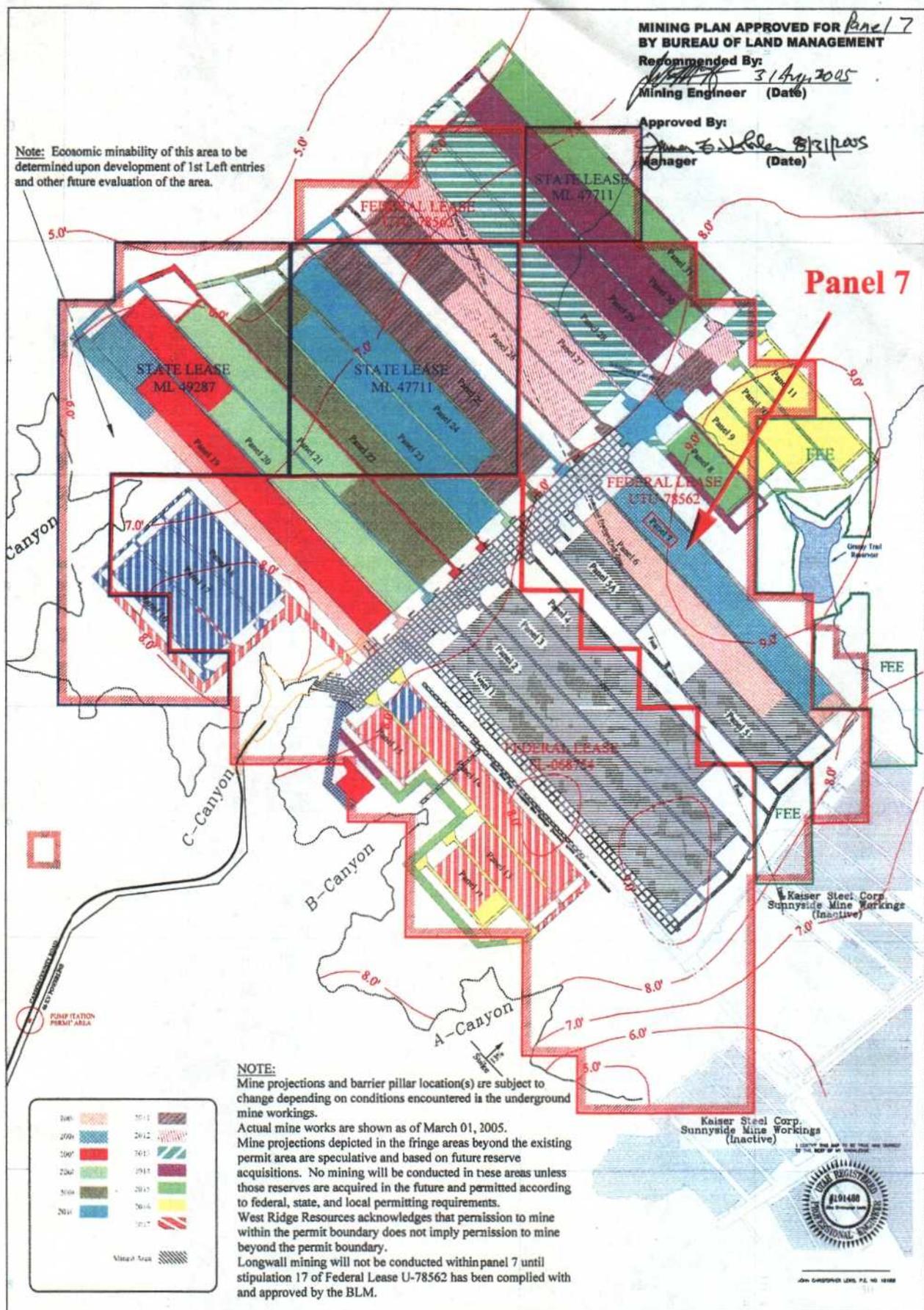
Enclosure
Approved Mine Map

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

**MINING PLAN APPROVED FOR Panel 7
BY BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**
Recommended By: *[Signature]* 3/1 Aug 2005
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By: *[Signature]* 8/23/05
Manager (Date)

Note: Economic minability of this area to be determined upon development of 1st Left entries and other future evaluation of the area.



Panel 7

NOTE:
Mine projections and barrier pillar location(s) are subject to change depending on conditions encountered in the underground mine workings.
Actual mine works are shown as of March 01, 2005.
Mine projections depicted in the fringe areas beyond the existing permit area are speculative and based on future reserve acquisitions. No mining will be conducted in these areas unless those reserves are acquired in the future and permitted according to federal, state, and local permitting requirements.
West Ridge Resources acknowledges that permission to mine within the permit boundary does not imply permission to mine beyond the permit boundary.
Longwall mining will not be conducted within panel 7 until stipulation 17 of Federal Lease U-78562 has been complied with and approved by the BLM.

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