

0013

MINING APPLICATION
NO. _____

Date _____



STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO COMMENCE MINING OPERATIONS
(See Rule M of General Rules and Regulations)

1. Name of Applicant or Company Swisher Coal Co.
Corporation (x) Partnership () Individual ()
2. Address 90 West First North, Price, UT 84501
Permanent Temporary
3. Name and title of person representing company Max A. Robb, President
4. Address 90 West First North, Price, UT Office Phone 801/637-5050
5. Location of Operation Emery Sec. 16 T. 16 R. 7
County
6. Name of Mine Huntington Canyon #4
7. Mineral to be mined: Mining method:

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| (x) Coal | () Flagstone | <u>Room-and-pillar</u> |
| () Copper | () Gravel | _____ |
| () Manganese | () Shale | _____ |
| () Iron Ore | () Uranium | _____ |
| () Phosphate | () Gilsonite | _____ |
| () Potash | () Bituminous Sandstone | _____ |
| () Fluorspar | () Tungsten | _____ |
| () Other (specify) _____ | | _____ |

8. Have you or any person, partnership or corporation associated with you received an approved Notice of Intention to Commence Mining Operations by the State of Utah for operations other than described herein?

() Yes (x) No

If yes, list all approval numbers now under surety:

9. Owner/Owners of record of the surface area within the land to be affected:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---|
| <u>Dick Nelson</u> | Address | <u>501 East 2700 South Salt Lake City, Utah</u> |
| <u>M.M. Hiatt</u> | Address | <u>317 Limestone Creek Rd. San Antonio, Texas</u> |
| <u>General Exploration Co.</u> | Address | <u>4219 Sigma Rd. Dallas, Texas 75240</u> |
| <u>U.S. Forest Service</u> | Address | <u>350 East Main Price, Utah</u> |

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10. Owner/Owners of record of minerals to be mined:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---|
| <u>Dick Nelson</u> | Address | <u>501 East 2700 South Salt Lake City, Utah</u> |
| <u>M.M. Hiatt</u> | Address | <u>317 Limestone Creek Rd. San Antonio, Texas</u> |
| <u>General Exploration Co.</u> | Address | <u>4219 Sigma Road Dallas, Texas 75240</u> |
| <u>U.S.G.S.</u> | Address | <u>125 S. State Salt Lake City, UT</u> |

11. Owner/Owners of record of all other minerals within any part of the land affected:

| | | |
|-------|---------|-------|
| _____ | Address | _____ |
| _____ | Address | _____ |
| _____ | Address | _____ |

11a. Have the above owners been notified in writing?
(x) Yes () No

12. Source of Operator's legal right to enter and conduct operations on land to be covered by the Notice land owned in fee, mine plans approved by U.S.G.S.

13. Approximate acreage to be disturbed: 4 acres
Mining Operation Area: 2 acres +
(include operations, storage, & disposal area)
Access Road or Haulageway: 2 acres +
Drainage System: _____ acres =
Total Acres: 4 Acres

14. Give the names and post office addresses of every principal Executive, Officer Partner, (or person performing a similar function) of Applicant:

| | Name: | Title: | Address: |
|----|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| a. | <u>Max A. Robb</u> | <u>President</u> | <u>90 West First North Price, Utah 84501</u> |
| b. | <u>Eugene E. Nearburg</u> | <u>Vice President</u> | <u>4219 Sigma Road Dallas, Texas 75240</u> |
| c. | <u>William G. Ferguson</u> | <u>Chairman of the Board</u> | <u>180 E. Broad St. #816 Columbus, Ohio 43215</u> |
| d. | <u>C. Nick Bailey</u> | <u>Secretary-Treasurer</u> | <u>4219 Sigma Road</u> |
| | | <u>Vice President</u> | <u>Dallas, Texas 75240</u> |

15. Has Applicant, any subsidiary or affiliate or any person, partnership, association, trust, or corporation controlled by or under common control with Applicant, or any person required to be identified by Item 14, ever had an approval of a Notice of Intention withdrawn or has surety relating thereto ever been forfeited? () Yes (x) No

If yes; explain:

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STATE OF Utah

COUNTY OF Carbon

I, Dave Shaver, Mining Engineer, having been duly sworn
depose and attest that all of the representations contained in the foregoing
application are true to the best of my knowledge; that I am authorized to
complete and file this application on behalf of the Applicant and this
application has been executed as required by law.

Signed: *Dave Shaver*

Taken, subscribed and sworn to before me the undersigned authority
in my said county, this 16th day of March, 19 76.

Notary Public *Kathleen Knight*

My Commission Expires: October 18, 1979

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Plan for the Development of
Huntington Canyon #4 Mine

Huntington Canyon, Emery County, Utah

Swisher Coal Company

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9/19/76



Description of Existing Area

The mine site is located in Mill Fork Canyon, a tributary to Huntington Canyon in Emery County, Utah, about 12 miles northeast of the town of Huntington. It is reached by a one mile access road taking off Utah State Route #31. The mine site area stands at an elevation of approximately 7900 feet in a highly dissected part of the Wasatch Plateau and supports a scattered growth of spruce, pine and juniper as well as lesser vegetation typical of the highland forest.

Scattered small scale mines have operated in the area of Huntington Canyon since the early 1930's. Presently coal is being produced nearby in Trail Canyon from the privately owned Co-op Mine and in Dear Creek Canyon by Peabody Coal Company.

The Huntington Canyon #4 Mine will extract coal from various tracts of fee land as well as from Federal Lease #SL064903 which contains 160 acres and is described as follows:

T16S, R7E, SLBM - Section 16:

SW1/4 NE1/4
NW1/4 SE1/4
NE1/4 SW1/4
SE1/4 NW1/4

This lease is bordered on the east and south by privately owned land and on west and north by open federal coal land. Surface facilities for the mine will be located almost entirely on fee land while access and haul roads will be located on both private land and U.S. Forest Service land. The haul road and that section of the access road lying in the canyon bottom will be maintained as a public road for users of the forest.

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Nature and Extent of Deposit

The Blind Canyon Seam has a relatively wide aerial extent and is one of the principle producing seams in the Huntington Canyon region. In the Mill Fork area of interest, the seam varies in thickness from 13 ft. in the Leamaster Mine to a reported 4 ft. in the Helco Mine located nearby to the west. The coal sits on a competent sandstone-siltstone foundation and is overlain by a massive sandstone which forms a very stable roof in the mine. No roof bolts have ever been used in the Leamaster Mine and many intersections have been cut in excess of 30 ft. wide with no signs of roof failure.

The seam shows localized rolls but over a wide area appears to be generally flat. Maximum cover is estimated to be about 1400 ft. occurring in the northwestern section of the lease block. From all available geologic data the area seems to be free of any major fault systems.

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Development Phases

The mine portal was opened and mining started by Vern Leamaster in 1943. and served the local domestic coal market until 1964. During that time approximately 127,000 tons were extracted from the mine from both the federal lease and fee properties. Nearby the Helco Mine and the Skeen Mine were also in operation although on a much smaller scale. In 1975 Swisher Coal Company of Price, Utah, a wholly owned subsidiary of General Exploration, acquired the option to purchase the mine and has been assigned the operatorship of the property.

Initial production from the mine is planned for the early part of 1976 at a rate of 1,000 to 2,000 tons per day. A production rate of 3,000 tons per day is not unlikely at some time in the future. Extraction will be from the upper Blind Canyon Seam, for which the reserves are estimated at nearby seven million tons. At 2,000 tons per day the life of the mine would be approximately 30 years. The lower Hiawatha Seam has an estimated reserve of 8.5 million tons.

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Proposed Mining Methods

The following surface improvements will be made:

1. Excavation of the upper mine yard and portal area.
2. Leveling and extending the coal stock piling and loading area located in the box canyon.
3. Up grading the existing access and haul roads.
4. Grading and leveling the lower mine yard which will be used for material storage and the location of the office and bath house.

All proposed and existing surface improvements are shown on the accompanying maps.

Coal production will come from a continuous miner section using room-and-pillar methods of extraction. Additional miner units will be put into production in the future as market requirements increase. Main entries will be driven with five entries on 80 ft. centers with cross-cuts also on 80 ft. centers. Butt entries will be driven with three or five entries on 80 ft. by 80 ft. centers. Rooms will be taken 500 ft. to 600 ft. on either side of the butt entries and a 220 ft. barrier pillar will be left to protect the mains. Entries, cross-cuts, and rooms will be driven 20 ft. wide. Where coal height allows, two feet of top coal will be left for protection and roof control will be accomplished by timbering and roof bolting. Abandoned and de-activated areas will be sealed off as they are worked out.

The mine will be developed from the outcrop and will utilize only a small portion of the old workings as shown on the enclosed map. Main entries will be driven through the old works in a northeasterly direction until the workings are cleared and then turn to the northwest to parallel the outcrop and to line up with property holdings to the north. Butt entries will be driven in an east-west direction to allow the most efficient extraction of the lease block and to provide the best access for proper development of surrounding coal lands should additional federal leases be acquired in the future.

Coal will be brought out of the mine on a 42 in. belt conveyor, run thru a single roll crusher and then discharge down an enclosed chute into a 2,000 ton capacity storage pile located in the lower box canyon. The coal will then be loaded into 28 ton trucks by a front end loader and hauled to market.

There will be no coal washing facilities on the site and, therefore, no refuse disposal. In the past the mine has been characteristically dry and mine water discharge was not a problem. Any water encountered in future

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operations will either leave with the coal product as interstitial moisture or will be sumped underground for subsequent use. Canyon drainage will be diverted around both the upper and lower mine yard to prevent erosional damage to the yards and to preclude siltation of Mill Fork. In the stock piling and loading area the drainage will be coursed to prevent contamination of the stream by coal from the storage pile.

Combustible trash will be burned in well designed incendiaries and incombustible trash will be disposed of in an approved sanitary land fill located on fee land. Sewage will be disposed of by a septic tank and drain field system, a holding tank or some other system approved by the State Health Department. Trailers will be used for offices, bath house and material storage. These will be of a semi-permanent nature and may be replaced with more permanent structures in the future if needed.

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Abandonment and Reclamation

1. After mining operations are permanently terminated, surface structures will be removed from the site. Useable items will be salvaged and un-useable items will be disposed of in a sanitary land fill.
2. All mine portals and openings will be tightly sealed to prevent unauthorized entry into the mine. Seals will be constructed of concrete blocks with mortared joints.
3. Surface areas and roads will be thoroughly cleaned of all debris. All disturbed areas will be re-seeded with a mix prescribed by the Forest Service.
4. As much as is practical prominent drainage features which have been diverted, channeled or culverted will be returned to their original alignment.
5. The purpose of reclamation will be to present an area aesthetic appearance and one compatible with surrounding forest use. Surveys will be made as often as is necessary to insure the objectives of reclamation are being fulfilled.

Power System

Power for the mine will initially be provided by a self-contained 440 volt diesel generator with an output of 900 kilowatts. The diesel will be equipped with a forest service approved spark arrestor. Eventually line service will be provided by Utah Power and Light as the existing power line to the mine is up graded sufficiently. At that time use of the diesel generator will be discontinued.

Water Requirements

The greatest use of water will be for the sprays on the mining machinery. For a two unit mine maximum water requirements for this purpose would be approximately 16,000 gallons per day, for a four unit mine, 32,000 gallons per day. Additionally, a maximum of 2,000 gallons per day would be needed for showering and sanitary purposes. Water will be obtained from either a well or a pumping station drawing out of Mill Fork or Huntington Creek. Such a pumping station would be constructed according to the specifications of the Forest Service and the State Water Engineer. Potable water will be tested and treated if necessary to comply with State Health Department standards.

Personnel Requirements

A maximum of about 120 people will be employed when the mine is in full operation, including hourly workers, supervisors and staff. Swisher Coal Company is an equal opportunity employer and is non-discriminating in its hiring practices. Support employment will be needed for truck haulage and mine services such as parts distributors and fuel outlets. Revenue will be generated in the area in the form of personal income of mine employees and of service and support industries as well as taxes, royalties and lease payments. The effect of the increased employment and revenue on the area economy will be healthy.

Health and Safety

Health and safety requirements in all coal mines are established by the Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration of the Department of the Interior. All phases of mining are regulated by M.E.S.A. including fire control, dust control, refuse disposal, roof control, ventilation, and haulage. In addition, to the statutory provisions of the 1969 Coal Mine Health and Safety Act, the individual operators are required to submit various plans covering specific areas of health and safety which, when approved, become legally binding. The following plans have been submitted to M.E.S.A. and are included with this report:

1. Roof Control Plan
2. Ventilation System and Methane and Dust Control Plan
3. Fan Stoppage Plan
4. Plan for Search of Smoking Material
5. Emergency Medical Assistance Plan
6. Plan for Surface Organization and Procedure in Cast of Mine Fire or Explosion