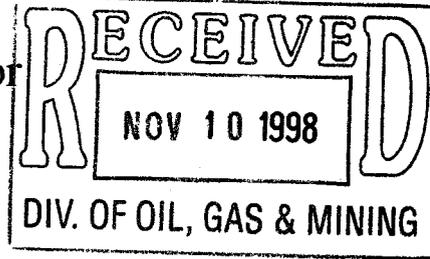


R. Daniel Pan



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Utah State Office
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155



NOV 6 1998

In Reply Refer To:
3410
UTU-68945
(UT-932)

ACT/015/009 #2

DECISION

Mountain Coal Company, LLC
555 Seventeenth Street
Denver, CO 80202

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:
:

Coal Exploration
License Application
UTU-68945

Coal Exploration License Application Rejected

On October 24, 1991, Mountain Coal Company (predecessor to Mountain Coal Company, LLC) filed a coal exploration license application in this office for approximately 8,504.64 acres in Emery County, Utah. The application was given serial number UTU-68945.

A recent review of our records shows that, although the "Notice of Invitation to Participate" was published by the Bureau of Land Management in the Federal Register on November 13, 1991, there is no documentation that the notice was ever published, by the applicant, in the Emery County Progress in accordance with the regulations at 43 CFR 3410.2-1(c)(1).

The last correspondence in the file is an expression of desire to participate from PacifiCorp filed December 6, 1991. There is no correspondence in the file from Mountain Coal after the initial filing.

Coal exploration licenses UTU-66524 and UTU-67727, were filed on January 12, 1990,, by Utah Power & Light Company, and on September 27, 1990, by PacifiCorp respectively and expired June 17, 1992, and July 2, 1993. The lands in these licenses, when taken together, cover over 90 percent of the lands in the subject application. An application to conduct exploration which could have been conducted as a part of a current or recent coal exploration license may be rejected [43 CFR 3410.2-1(d)].

On February 26, 1991, PacifiCorp filed a lease by application (UTU-68012, Cottonwood Tract), which encompasses the lands in Mountain Coal's application. This tract is part of the Utah Schools and Lands Exchange Act of 1998, which conveyed to the State of Utah the United States' mineral interest in the coal located in the Cottonwood Tract. The State of Utah, through its agency of School and Institutional Trust Lands will sell this tract, not the Bureau of Land Management.

Therefore, coal exploration license UTU-68945 is hereby rejected. There was no bond filed in connection with this application.

ROBERT LOPEZ

Robert Lopez
Group Leader,
Minerals Adjudication Group

Enclosures

1. Serial Register Page--UTU-68945
2. Serial Register Page--UTU-66524
3. Serial Register Page--UTU-67727
4. Serial Register Page--UTU-68012

cc: Price Coal Office

Atlantic Richfield Company (w/encl.)
ATTN: Julia Fisher
515 South Flower, AP 4973
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Ark Land Company (w/encl.)
ATTN: Jan L. Wooton
CityPlace One, Suite 300
St. Louis, MO 63141

bc: Forest Supervisor, Manti-LaSal National Forest
Resource Development Coordinating Committee
Lowell Braxton, Director, UDOGM, P.O. Box 145801, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801