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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501

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FEB 23 2001

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

3482
U-082996
U-64375
(UT-070)

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Certificate No. 7099 3400 0006 5101 8324

Mr. Steven E. Kochevar, P. E.
Mine Planning Administrator
Interwest Mining Company
One Utah Center, Suite 2000
Salt Lake City, Utah 84140-0200

FEB 26 2001

FAX PFD

Re: Sealing of Areas and Abandonment of Equipment, Old Request, South Area off 5th Left Mains, Trail Mountain Mine

Dear Mr. Kochevar:

Interwest has brought to the attention of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that a number of mine plan modifications have not had formal written approval from our agency. Two of these items are the subject of this letter and involve the south area of the Trail Mountain Mine. An inclusive approval was sent to you dated August 30, 2000, which finalized many mine plan changes in the south block of Federal coal lease U-64375, but this letter did not specifically address these two requests.

First, Interwest requested to seal the 1st and 2nd East gateroads off 5th Left and seal 5th Left Mains south of the 10th Right intersection, thereby isolating the east mined-out longwall block off 5th Left. All minable coal was extracted and maximum economic recovery was achieved in this area. Verbal approval was granted and this letter confirms the approval to seal. Since this area was abandoned before our waste certification audit forms were in place, certification for abandonment of the mine will have to include this area.

Second, Interwest requested to leave a portion of the longwall equipment in the 10th Right off 5th Left longwall face due to safety concerns with adverse roof conditions. Conditions were witnessed and verbal approval was granted. Formal approval is hereby given which confirms the verbal approval for this action.

These two requests comply with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 3480, and the lease terms and conditions. Since all recoverable coal in the south-east area of Federal coal lease U-64375 has been mined, sealing the area will not affect maximum economic recovery of the coal resource. Also, leaving longwall equipment due to safety conditions meets the requirements of maximum economic recovery. The BLM acknowledges and regrets the length of time to respond in writing for these modifications and is working to better the situation.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of my staff at (435) 636-3600 .

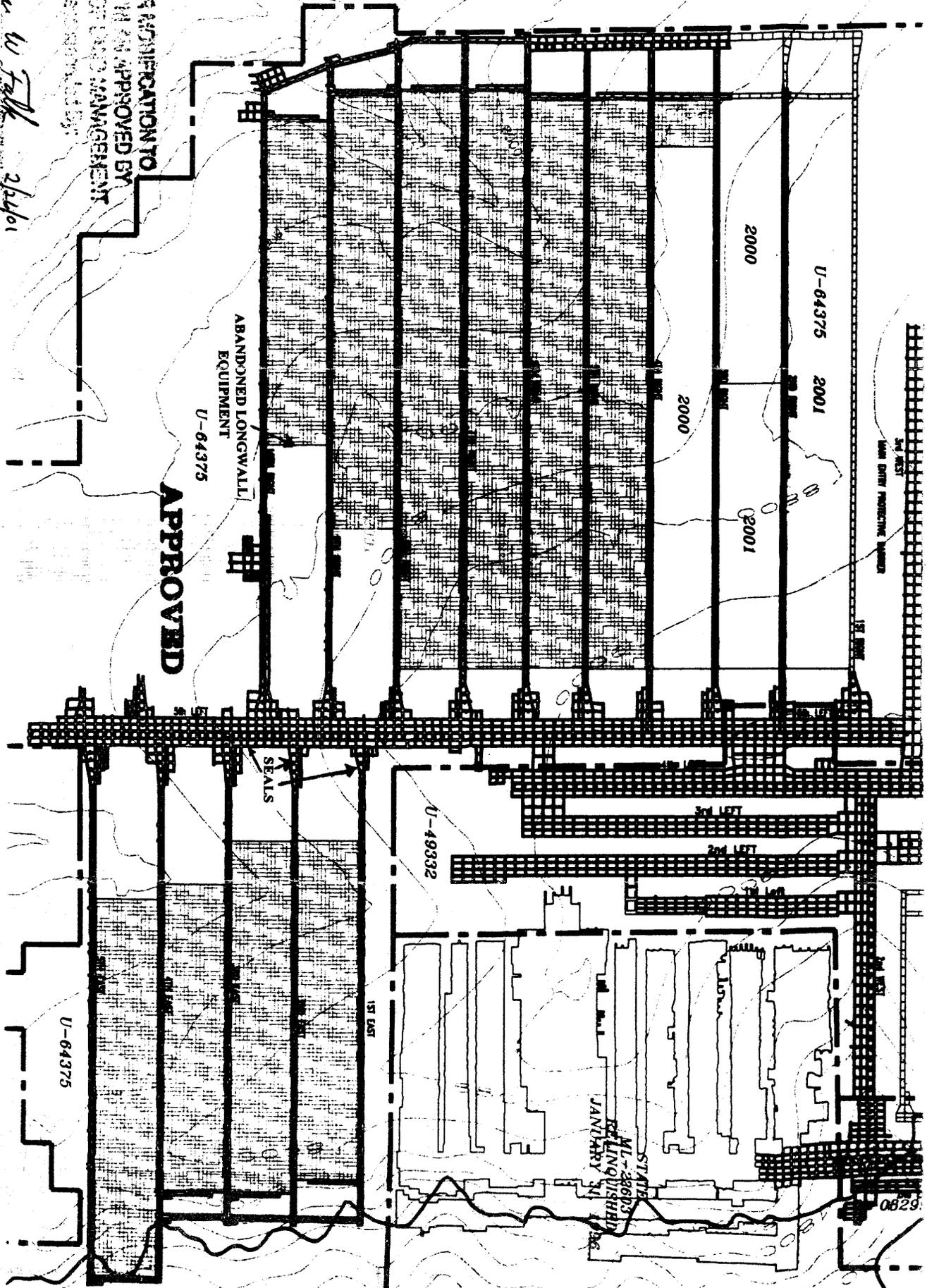
Sincerely,

/S/ THOMAS E. RASMUSSEN

FOR Richard L. Manus
Field Manager

Enclosure
Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-921, SD, Utah (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 (w/encl.)
Energy West Mining Company
P. O. Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528 (w/encl.)



APPROVED FOR ASSIGNMENT TO
 MINING AND APPROVED BY
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Resource Unit

APPROVED

Hyman W. Falk 2/24/61

Approved by:

Robert C. Hansen 2/24/61
 (1003)

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 JANUARY 31 1968

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