



IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING  
Reclamation and Enforcement  
P.O. Box 46667  
Denver, Colorado 80201-6667

UT-0005

June 14, 2004

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

*Freering*  
*4/015/0015*

RE: Consolidation Coal Company. - "Emery Deep Mine - Application for a Permit Revision, Removal of Dust Control Language"

Dear Sir or Madam:

This in response to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining's (UT-DOGM) May 13, 2004, 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 for a Permit Revision, Removal of Dust Control Language, has determined that it proposes to remove selected text in Chapters II and X, of the approved Permit Application Package (PAP), discussing measures to be taken to control fugitive dust at the Emery Deep mine, Utah State permit C/015/015. In addition, minor text corrections were made to the remaining text discussing fugitive dust control measures.

Based on a review of the activities associated with the permit revision, OSM has determined that the proposal does not meet the requirements of 30 CFR 746.18(d). Therefore, the proposed permit revision does not constitute a mining plan action requiring Secretarial approval.

OSM's decision was based solely upon the Federal regulations under 30 CFR PART 746 and not the technical aspects of the revision application itself. Consequently, OSM's decision does not relieve UT-DOGM from coordinating the review and approval of the Application for a Permit Revision, Removal of Dust Control Language with other Federal agencies for compliance with other Federal regulations.

OSM also electronically transmitted the May 13, 2004 request to the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service for their review and comment.

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS &amp; MINING



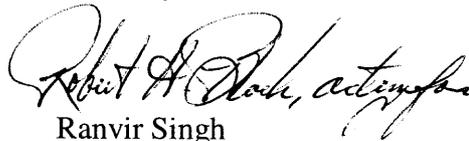
In an electronic transmittal dated May 13, 2004 the Bureau of Land Management stated in it's opinion the Permit Rewrite permit revision did not does not constitute a mining plan action requiring Secretarial approval.

The U.S. Forest Service did not provide any comments in the thirty day time frame established by the Federal regulations under 30 CFR 944.30, Article VI. D.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ranvir Singh", written in black ink.

Ranvir Singh  
Manager, Northwest Branch

cc: Denver Field Division