

0049

C/O 15/015 Incoming
92 CC: Steve C.



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
U-50044
(UT-923)

AUG 06 2008

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested 7007 0710 0003 0208 2492

RECEIVED

Russell Hardy, Mine Engineer
Consolidation Coal Co.
Emery Mine
PO Box 527
Emery, Utah 84522

AUG 14 2008

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Re: Minor Modification to the Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), CM Panel Layout; 1st North, 5th West and 8th South Panels, Emery Mine.

Dear Mr. Hardy:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received on April 9, 2008, an R2P2 modification request from Consolidation Coal Company for the subject mine. The proposed modification revises the mine layout and the timing of the mining, with emphasis on the 1st North, 5th West and 8th South Panels on Consol's LMU and Federal coal leases (U-5287 and U-50044) and on other non-federal coal lands.

Proposed Plan: Instead of the Panels off of 1st North mining through the parting transition zone, requiring extra roof support, increased out of seam dilution, and slower mining rates, the transition zone will not be mined. Panels off of 1st North and 5th West will be mined up to the transition zone from both sides. Overall this will decrease the recoverable tons on the LMU and Federal Lease U-50044.

Secondly, in the 8th South section, one panel has been removed while the remaining two have been widened which results in the coal being mined in a more optimal manner. This affects a small portion of U-5287.

Approval: The BLM agrees with the proposed changes. The question of exactly where the rock parting would be encountered is generally an unknown; it can occur very quickly and likely it was a matter of time before it was encountered in this direction from 6th West. We have noted on a recent inspection visit (April 16, 2008) that the rock parting in fact had been encountered in the northern-most entries (within the boundary of U-50044) and was progressively moving across the faces to the west. The decision was made to immediately stop the progress of those entries in a north-westerly direction and create new entries, parallel to the parting in a westerly direction and connect into the 5th West Mains. By turning these entries and reconnecting the airway into

the 5th West Mains, the company will be able to first, avoid the coal quality issues associated with the parting and two, allow mining of the resource (up to the parting) from both directions. This clearly will maximize the resource recovery while eliminating the coal quality issues in this transition zone. The remainder of the overall mine plan has been adjusted accordingly. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed.

Maximum Economic Recovery (MER): Full extraction of recoverable coal reserves will enable MER of the Federal coal in lease U-50044 to be achieved.

Recoverable Reserve Base: A different approach to the resource is being used due to a rock parting which came into the section. A portion of the resource, containing the parting will not be mined and the overall recoverable resource in the R2P2 will be reduced. Also, while the MER will be achieved, the mine layout design has changed somewhat within the LMU. When compared to the most recent R2P2 reserve estimate (03/14/08), the new estimate shows that the recoverable reserve on Federal Coal Leases U-50044 and U-5287 will be reduced by a net 115,786 tons. The overall LMU tonnage has been reduced by 722,530 tons, of which 606,744 tons were on non-federal (fee) leases. This takes into account the mining of 1,232,599 tons from the LMU (MMS reporting) between the times when the two LMU tonnage estimates were made, and an actual increase in recoverable tonnage of 81,610 tons on Federal Lease U-5287.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): No new surface disturbance is predicted with this action, and therefore this action is Categorically Excluded (CX) from NEPA analysis under DM 516 chapter 11.5, paragraph F. (8): Approval of minor modifications to, or minor variances from, activities described in an approved underground or surface mine plan for leasable minerals. (e.g., change in mining sequence or timing.).

This R2P2 modification complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at CFR 3480, and the lease terms and conditions. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Rigby at the Price Field Office at (435) 636-3604 or Jeff McKenzie of my staff at (801) 539-4038.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. KOHLER

James F. Kohler
Chief, Solid Minerals

Enclosure:

Approved Mine Map

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

ConsolR2P2Apr08JM-SA-7-11-08

**MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT** *

Recommended By: 6 Aug 2008

Mining Engineer (Date)

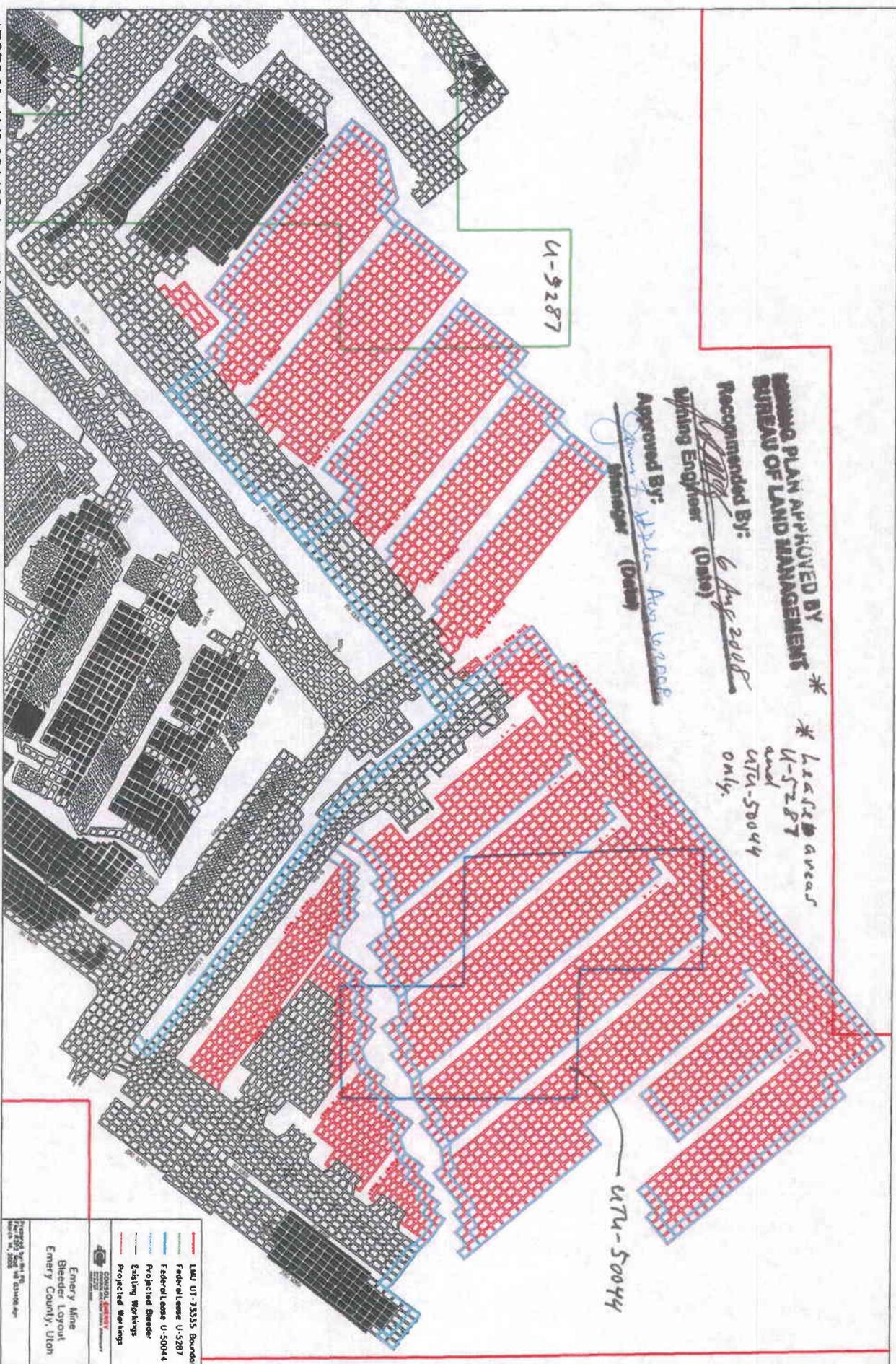
Approved By: James J. Miller, Area Manager

Manager (Date)

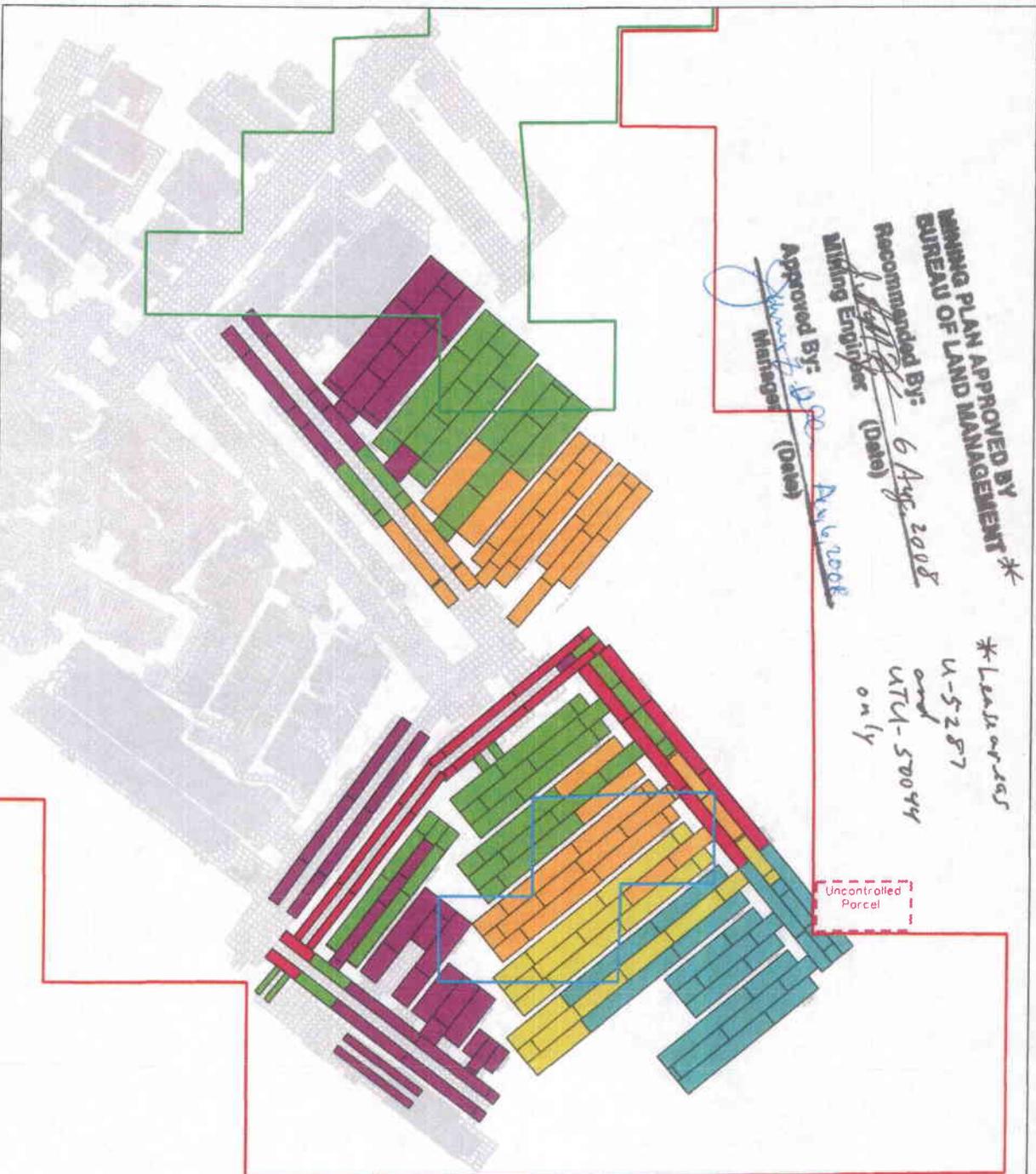
* Lease areas
U-5287
and
UTM-50044
only.

U-5287

UTM-50044



	LMU UT-23335 Boundary
	Federal Lease U-5287
	Federal Lease U-50044
	Projected Structure
	Existing Workings
	Projected Workings



**MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ***

Recommended By: 6 Aug 2008
 Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By: August 2008
 Manager (Date)

* Lease areas
 U-5287
 and
 UTA-50044
 only

Uncontrolled
 Parcel

LEGEND

- LMO UTA-73335 BOUNDARY
- FEDERAL LEASE U-5287
- FEDERAL LEASE U-50044



- █ Retirement Timing
- █ Retirement Timing
- █ 2008
- █ 2009
- █ 2010
- █ 2011
- █ 2012
- █ 2013-2017
- █ 2018-2023



I Zone 5-year
 Sequence
 Plate 3-7

Prepared by: RH PB Scale: 1"=600'
 File: R2P2 Mod 031408 83V82d.dgn March 14, 2008