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**Utah
power**
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SR/Ph Dec 2 JUN 27 1988

June 21, 1988

Mr. Brent Northrup
Bureau of Land Management
Moab District Office
P. O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

SUBJECT: Deer Creek Mine Plan Update and R2P2 Modification

Dear Sir;

Changes have occurred in the Deer Creek life-of-mine plan which warrant modification of the existing resource recovery and protection plan.

Updated mine plan sequencing and longwall panel orientation changes are necessary to utilize new geologic data, new Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulation interpretation, and mining system improvements.

The Roan's Canyon fault crossing will now be located at the northern-most end of the 3rd North mains. This will enable the layout of longwall panels in the northern leases to be more compatible with the overburden joint orientations. The 3rd North crossing location also allows selective mining of low-ash and high-ash longwall blocks. This will ensure consistent coal quality while maximizing recovery of reserves designated for additional preparation.

MSHA regulations regarding longwall bleeder systems have made it necessary to design and incorporate "dedicated" bleeder systems in the mine plan whenever possible. These bleeder systems must be maintained open for extended periods of time, requiring that barriers be used to protect the bleeder entries from mining abutment loads. The protection barriers will vary in width depending on overburden depth and accumulated design experience.

The reorientation of longwall panels in the life-of-mine plan fully utilizes the longwall mining units as the primary source of reserve extraction. Extension of longwall panel lengths are projected to reduce the amount of entry development and increase reserves mined by the longwall units. The high percentage of coal recovered from the longwalls will increase overall Deer Creek Mine reserve recovery percentages.

Areas reflecting modification in the R2P2 include an updated life-of-mine plan map showing mining by year for 5 years, thereafter in 5 year increments for the Deer Creek Mine. All other areas pursuant to 43 CFR 3482.1 (c) remain unchanged in the approved resource recovery and protection plan.

If you require more information please call.

Thank you,



Bart Hyita
Director of Operational Engineering

BH/jd

Enclosure

cc: Morgan Moon
Dave Smaldone