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Rick Helbrook
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DIVISION OF
OIL GAS & MINING

Moab District
P.O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

MAY 24 1991

Mr. Bart Hyita
Director of Technical Services
PacifiCorp Electric Operations
324 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84126-0128

RE: 5th Right Longwall Development, Deer Creek Mine

Dear Mr. Hyita:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received PacifiCorp's written request to modify the approved resource recovery and protection plan for the Deer Creek Mine on May 10, 1991. The submitted proposal documents the conditions that were reported by phone to Stephen Falk at the Price Coal on May 6, 1991, and verified by an inspection on May 7, 1991.

The proposed modification calls for shortening the planned 5th Right longwall panel, located on Federal lease U-084923, approximately 480 feet. The longwall set up entry would be mined at cross cut 35 with the bleeder entry beginning at cross cut 38. The previous plan was to set up the longwall at cross cut 40 with the bleeder entry at cross cut 42.

PacifiCorp's justification to modify the mine plan is that a rock split was encountered in the Blind Canyon Seam while developing the 5th Right gate road entries. It is contended that the thickness and hardness of this material has precluded further development of the longwall panel.

The conditions in 5th Right were verified by BLM personnel during an inspection on May 7, 1991. Coal thickness at the face past 38 cross cut was down to 5 feet. The thickness of the rock split was measured (2 feet thick) at the intersection of cross cut 38 where the miner had tried to mine into the split and exposed the rock. The continuous miner was being repaired at the face from damage sustained in mining the hard rock parting. Based on these conditions, the BLM agrees that setting up the 5th Right longwall face at cross cut 35 is warranted.

GENERAL MODIFICATION FOR ANTICIPATED CONDITIONS

PacifiCorp has inferred that the trend of the rock split may affect the extent of the 6th and 7th Right gate roads. This is an ideal situation in which to request a general modification.

The BLM can give approval for a general modification that would allow development of minable coal to the extent possible where it is warranted by specific geologic conditions. A general modification would preclude PacifiCorp from sending a written request for a mine plan modification every time these specific geological conditions are encountered. PacifiCorp would only need to notify our office when these conditions are encountered so that the BLM could inspect and verify the conditions. Such a submission should include a written request and supporting information justifying the modification, along with a mine map with best estimates of mining limits and estimates of the location and trend of the specific geologic conditions.

In conclusion, BLM has determined that the requested change to the 5th Right longwall panel is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the leased Federal coal. Therefore, the modification to set up the 5th Right longwall at cross cut 35 is approved. A copy of the approved modification and mine map is enclosed. PacifiCorp is not authorized to modify the 6th and 7th Right gate entries until the the information discussed is submitted for approval.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephen Falk or Gary Johnson in Price at 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Johnson for
Assistant District Manager
Mineral Resources

Enclosure:
Approved modification

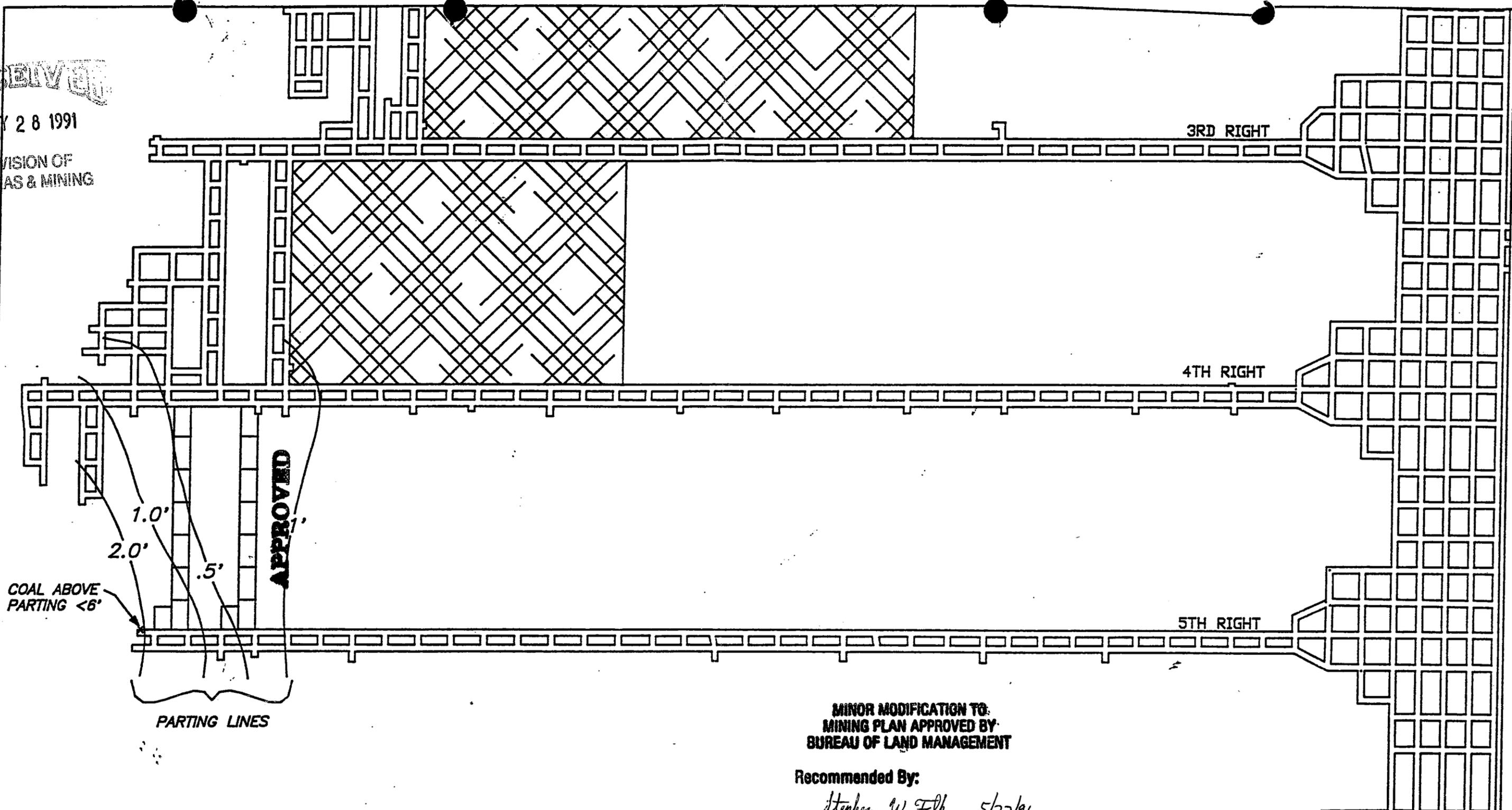
cc: DM, Moab, (U-065), w/attachment
SD, Utah, (U-921), w/attachment
UDOGM, Salt Lake City, Utah, w/attachment
Mine Plan File, Price

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DIVISION OF
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MINOR MODIFICATION TO:
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:
Stephen W Felk 5/22/91
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By:
Clay Johnson
Chief - Price Coal (Date)
Office

CAD FILE NAME/DIR: DCSHLM/2

PACIFICORP ELECTRIC OPERATIONS FUEL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT <small>P.O. BOX 26128 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84126-0128</small>	
DEER CREEK MINE 5TH RIGHT R2P2 MODIFICATION	
DRAWN BY: J. GARRETT	DU1292B
SCALE: 1" = 300'	DRAWING 6
DATE: MAY 9, 1991	SHEET 1 OF 1 REV.