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# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

*File Act/015/018 #2*  
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 SL-070645 *Jose*  
 U-02292  
 (U-065)

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

**FEB 28 1991**

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig, Permit Supervisor  
 State of Utah  
 Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
 355 West North Temple Street  
 3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

On February 21, 1990, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received PacifiCorp's proposed Rilda Canyon Lease Tract addition for the Deer Creek Mine Permit Application Package (PAP). The BLM was asked to review the resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2) and submit our findings which are discussed below.

PacifiCorp plans to enlarge the Deer Creek Mine Permit Area (Act/015/018) by adding an adjacent tract to the north. The tract includes one State of Utah coal lease (ML-22509), three Federal coal leases (U-7653, U-47977, and SL-050862) and the southern portion of Federal coal lease U-06039.

The R2P2 calls for the development of main entries in a north-northwest direction beyond the Roan's Canyon Fault. Longwall panels are projected on both sides of these main entries. A number of longwall panels located along the south side of Rilda Canyon will undermine portions of the canyon escarpments (see enclosed highlighted map). This has prompted an in-depth review of potential escarpment failure.

The Manti-LaSal National Forest (FS) has asked BLM to evaluate the R2P2 and determine if the mining plan provides adequate protection of surface resources in accordance with the Federal lease terms and conditions. The BLM is currently working on a response to the FS regarding our analysis of the escarpment issue. Final approval of mining zones that may affect sensitive escarpment areas is contingent on the completion of the technical studies currently underway. Because the mine plan provides adequate flexibility for any necessary future adjustments in these areas, development as proposed for the remainder of the R2P2 is recommended for approval.

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Division of  
 OIL, GAS & MINING

We have determined that the R2P2 as submitted is complete and technically adequate. The R2P2 is also in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act, as amended, the regulatory provisions of 43 CFR 3480, Federal lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery (MER) of the Federal coal. Therefore, we recommend partial approval of the R2P2 for this permit action.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Johnson".

for  
Assistant District Manager  
Mineral Resources

Enclosure:  
Mine Projection Map

cc: SD, Utah (U-921), w/enclosure  
DM, Moab (U-065), w/enclosure  
Office of Surface Mining, Denver, w/enclosure  
PacifiCorp, SLC, Utah, w/enclosure  
Manti-LaSal NF, Price, Utah, w/enclosure

