



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
P.O. Box 7004
Price, Utah 84501

3482
SL-070645
U-47977
(UT-070)

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested
Certificate No. Z 182 430 784

MAY 31 2000

Mr. Steven E. Kochevar, P. E.
Mine Planning Administrator
Interwest Mining Company
One Utah Center, Suite 2000
Salt Lake City, Utah 84140-0200

Incoming
ACT/015/018

Re: Minor Modification of Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), 4th and 3rd West Longwall Panels Off 3rd North B Mains, Deer Creek Mine

Dear Mr. Kochevar:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a number of requests over a period of time for altering the subject R2P2. These modifications were given previous verbal approvals and this letter is to affirm those approvals for the record. The areas for the 4th and 3rd West longwall panels are located on Federal coal leases U-7653 and U-47977.

Interwest proposed a number of changes to the approved R2P2 with relation to the 4th and 3rd West longwall panels at the Deer Creek Mine due to a number of geologic conditions. First, the displacement of the inby fault of the Left Fork Fault Graben at the 4th West gateroads had increased beyond the point to where the longwall panel could cross the fault without major problems. Hence, the extraction room for the 4th West longwall was determined at crosscut 29. Second, the 3rd West longwall set up room for the far west area was determined to be set at crosscut 71 due to unacceptable in-seam coal quality west of this point. Third, the extraction room for the 3rd West longwall panel inby the Left Fork Fault Graben was determined at crosscut 40 to avoid adverse roof and rib stability adjacent to the fault. Fourth, the extraction of the remaining portion of the 3rd West longwall panel outby the Left Fork Fault Graben would proceed directly after the mining of the inby 3rd West panel, instead of waiting until the north Rilda Canyon area was mined. This extraction of the longwall panel outby the fault would begin with the setup rooms at crosscut 24 and end with extraction room at crosscut 9.

All these changes were dictated by the location and extent of the Left Fork Fault Graben and the in-seam partings of the Blind Canyon Seam located at the west end of the 3rd West panel. These conditions were witnessed by inspections and verbal approval granted as the BLM concurs with the plans to avoid these adverse mining areas.

RECEIVED

JUN 02 2000

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

This letter confirms the verbal approvals granted by our inspector and constitutes our concurrence to the modified R2P2. The modifications comply with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 3480, and the lease terms and conditions. All recoverable coal in the 3rd through 9th West longwall block off 3rd North B Mains has been mined and maximum economic recovery has been achieved. The BLM is still evaluating the status of the coal reserves south and west of this mining block (off 2nd West) as to whether the area is still potentially recoverable. The BLM acknowledges and regrets the length of time to respond in writing for these modifications and is working to better the situation.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of my staff at (801) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

THOMAS E. RASMUSSEN Acting

FOR Richard L. Manus
Field Manager

Enclosure
Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-921, SD, Utah (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 (w/encl.)
Energy West Mining Company
PO Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528 (w/encl.)

