



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Utah State Office
P.O. Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3482
SL-070645
U-06039
(UT-923)

AUG 1 2002

Pamela Grubaugh-Littig
Permit Supervisor
State of Utah
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
1594 West North Temple Street, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Re: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Mill Fork Tract Access, Lease Modification to U-06039, Deer Creek Mine, PacifiCorp, C/015/018-IB01K

Dear Ms. Grubaugh-Littig:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received R2P2 submissions from PacifiCorp regarding the subject permit area addition at the Deer Creek Mine. This letter documents the Bureau's finding for the proposed R2P2 changes as required by the laws governing Federal coal leases.

PacifiCorp has successfully obtained from the BLM, a 65 acre lease modification to Federal lease U-06039 that bridges its coal holdings at the Deer Creek Mine to the recently acquired Mill Fork State Lease. In conjunction with this lease modification, PacifiCorp has filed a permit amendment to add this area to the existing Deer Creek permit. In addition, an R2P2 modification was filed which covers the lease modification area. A previous approval given by the Price Field Office was rescinded on 14 May 2002 to clarify data inconsistencies and request additional information. PacifiCorp has since submitted additional information that meets the requirements of the R2P2. The submitted plan shows the layout of the access entries from the existing Deer Creek Mine workings into the new Mill Fork Lease Tract.

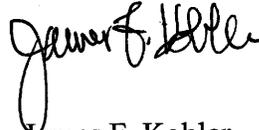
The R2P2 has been reviewed by this office and found complete and technically adequate. All mining on this lease modification will be underground, with no new surface facilities. Only main entry development (first mining) is planned at this time and no surface impacts are anticipated. The surface lands of this lease modification are National Forest lands and any post-mining land use concerns will be addressed by the Forest Service.

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Therefore, the BLM has determined that the submitted R2P2 is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the lease terms and conditions, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. We recommend that the mining permit be issued for this permit area change.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of the Price Field Office at (435) 636-3605 or Stan Perkes of my staff at (801) 539-4036.

Sincerely,



James F. Kohler
Chief, Solid Minerals Branch

cc: Office of Surface Mining
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Interwest Mining Company
One Utah Center, Suite 2000
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