

Mary Ann Parr

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Utah State Office
 P.O. Box 45155
 Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0155
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:
 3482
 SL-070645, U-024317
 (UT-923)

FEB 27 2004

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Carl Pollastro
 Director, Technical Services and Project Development
 Interwest Mining Company
 One Utah Center, Suite 2000
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84140-0200

Mary Ann Parr
 02/27/04
 email Mary Ann Parr

Re: Minor Modification of Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), 8th Right Longwall, Hiawatha Seam, Deer Creek Mine.

Dear Mr. Pollastro:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received on January 26, 2004, a written request from Interwest Mining Company to change the approved R2P2 at the subject mine. The modification deals with the 8th Right longwall panel and its associated set up and bleeder entries, Hiawatha Seam, North Rilda Canyon area. The area in question is located on Federal coal lease U-024317.

Interwest proposed to halt development of the 8th Right gate entries and mine the longwall set up and bleeder entries at crosscut #27 of the 8th Right gate entries and connect up to crosscut # 44 of 7th Right. The 8th Right longwall panel will be shortened by about 1600 feet from the original projected panel. Interwest reported that the 8th Right gate development miner has encountered a fluvial channel scour system that has reduced coal height to less than 6 feet. The channel system has similar features and orientation of the channel system encountered in 7th Right at crosscut 54. Interwest projects this low coal in this channel system through the panel at a NW-SE direction. Coal face profiles taken in the gate entries and projected through the panel show an estimated +20% ash product if the longwall should mine through this area. Unacceptable coal quality and the inability to access acceptable quality coal from this area are Interwest's justifications to cut the longwall panel short.

MAR 02 2004
Mary Ann Parr

The BLM evaluated the submission, inspected, and documented the 8th Right conditions and agrees with the proposal to change the set-up entry location. BLM provided a verbal approval for the modification on 4 December 2003. Coal heights and mining conditions were noted and verified. Also, Interwest provided manufacture's specifications of the longwall system machinery that limits the minable seam height. The information submitted indicates that the channel system, with a high potential for low coal from scouring and with a sandstone roof and floor, has negated longwall coal recovery past crosscut #24 in 8th Right.

Additional information provided by Interwest indicates as not practical or economic, potential coal recovery inby the channel by continuous miners. Approximately 380,000 in-place tons of coal is included in this inby area. BLM is evaluating the economic and mining factors relating to this coal.

This approval of a minor modification to an existing R2P2 is Categorically Excluded from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis in that no new surface disturbance will occur from this action as stated in Overview of BLM's NEPA Process, February 1997, Appendix 2, page 2-7 (F)(7).

The modification of the R2P2 complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 3480, and the lease terms and conditions and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the federal coal. The modification to mine the 8th Right longwall set up rooms at crosscut #24 and extract the remainder of the panel is approved as submitted. This confirms verbal approval given earlier. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk at the Price Field Office (435) 636-3605 or Jeff McKenzie of my staff at (801) 539-4038.

Sincerely,

James F. Kohler

James F. Kohler
Chief, Solid Minerals Branch

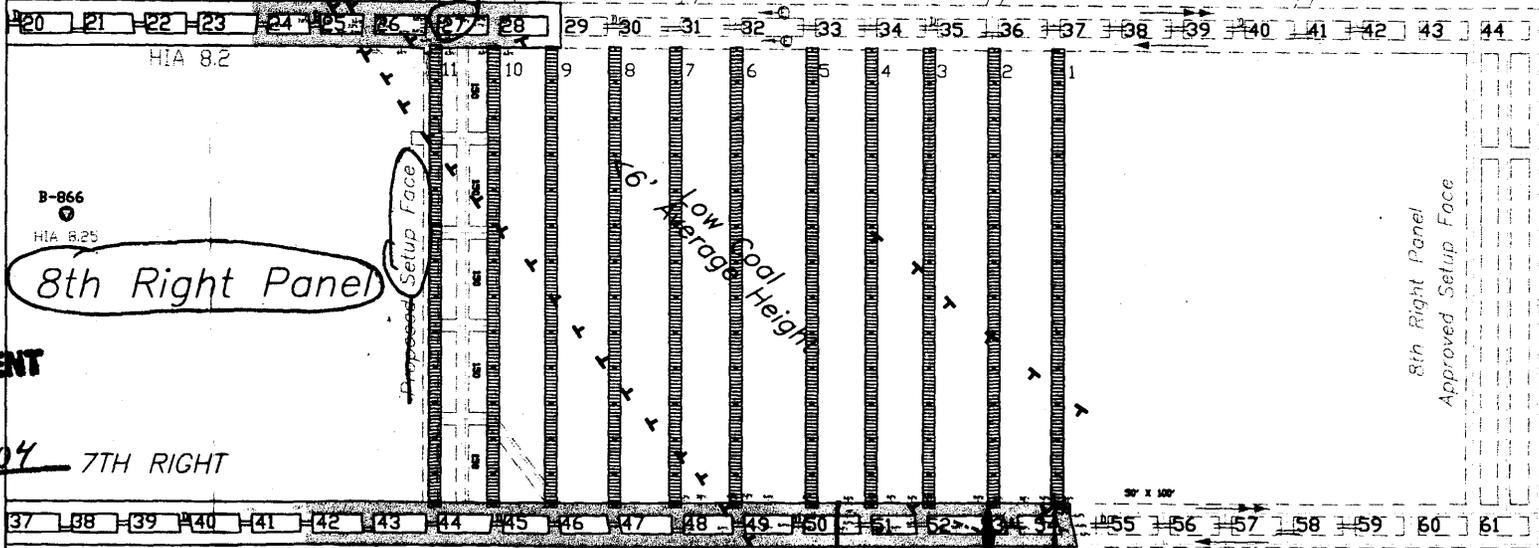
Enclosure
Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-070, Price, Utah (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (w/encl.)
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801
Energy West Mining Company (w/encl.)
P. O. Box 310
Huntington, Utah 84528

8TH RIGHT
EM-154

B-870
HIA 7.7

Hypothetical Profile Locations



B-866
HIA 8.25

8th Right Panel

Proposed Setup Face

6' Average Height

8th Right Panel
Approved Setup Face

MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:

20 Feb. 2004

7TH RIGHT

Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By:

2/25/04

Manager (Date)

I, KENNETH S. FLECK, LICENSED PROFESSIONAL
GEOLOGIST IN THE STATE OF UTAH, HEREBY CERTIFY
THAT THE INFORMATION DEPICTED IN THIS DRAWING
IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY
KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.



- Roof Sandstones
- Roof Mudstones
- Roof Siltstones
- Mudstone Cap Rock under Sandstone
- Channel or Scour Margin with Dip Direction
- Roof Fall
- Kettle Bottom

CAD FILE NAME/DIRTY: 8thSetupFace.dwg

ENERGY WEST
MINING COMPANY
HUNTINGTON, UTAH 84828

DEER CREEK MINE
8th Right Longwall - Proposed
and Proposed Setup Locations

DRAWN BY:	K.S. Fleck	1
SCALE:	1" = 200'	REVISIONS:
DATE:	December 1, 2003	SHEET 1 OF 1 REV.

7th Right Panel

Proposed Setup Face

6' Average Height

7th Right Panel
Approved Setup Face

B-858
HIA 8.1

B-857
HIA 9.1

EM-52 6TH RIGHT



Deer Creek Panel and Roof Zones