



**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 REFER TO:  
3483  
Moab I LMU (UTU 73335)  
U-5287  
U-50044  
(UT-923)

JUN 29 2004

*McCarthy*  
*6/15/0015*

CERTIFIED MAIL--Return Receipt Requested

Bart Hyita  
Vice President – Coal Operations Support  
Consol Energy  
172 Route 579  
Eighty-Four, PA 15330

RECEIVED

JUL 01 2004

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Mr. Hyita:

Re: Approval of the CONSOL Energy's request for a suspension of operations and production for Federal Coal Leases U-5287 and U-50044 and LMU UTU-73335 retroactive from September 1, 2003, to May 31, 2004.

Request: On June 7, 2004 the Utah State office of BLM received a written request from CONSOL Energy to suspend the federal leases and the logical mining unit and the Emery mine for a period of approximately 9 months from September 1, 2003 until May 31, 2004 for reasons of conservation of resources, pursuant to section 39 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.

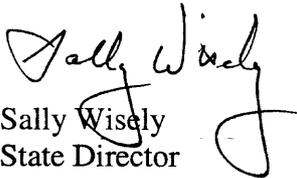
Background: CONSOL Energy idled the mine in August 2003 in anticipation of a sale. This sale fell through and the company was unable to get the mine back into production in order to meet the requirements of continued operations. If the company does go back into production and the Federal Leases are not part of the mining operations, then Federal coal may be wasted.

Approval: BLM grants a suspension of operations and production based on Section 39 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended for conservation of the resources for nine months from September 1, 2003 to May 31, 2004. As of June 1, 2004, the suspension of operations and production is lifted. This will make the Continued Operation Year (COY) 18 begin in July 1,

2003, and continue through March 31, 2005. The production requirement for the Logical Mining Unit still remains at 231, 270 tons per COY. At the present time there has been 39,772 tons that has already been mined in COY 18. If the production requirements are met for COY 18, the COY 19 will begin on April 1, 2005, and go through March 31, 2006.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Stan Perkes of my staff at (801) 539-4036.

Sincerely,

  
Sally Wisely  
State Director

cc: Price Field Office

WO-300

Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210, P.O. Box 145801, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801