

0063



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

43 CFR Part 3482, U-06039, (UT-923)

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested
Certificate No.

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

Re: Minor Modification of Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), 6th North Mains / 1st Right Sub-Mains Intersection, Hiawatha Seam, Deer Creek Mine.

Dear Mr. Pollastro:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a request dated 27 May 2005 from Interwest Mining Company to change the approved R2P2 by making three connection drivages to provide additional airflow connections and recovering a small amount of additional coal in the 6th North Mains / 1st Right Sub-Mains Intersection in the Hiawatha Seam of the Deer Creek Mine.

The ventilation connections include two pillar splits and a short two entry drivage. Interwest determined the connections were necessary and made the connections prior to notifying BLM. On May 12, 2005 the BLM inspector noted the change and concurred with the past action. As discussed on May 12th it is of course important to be sure supplementary entry support is added as needed to keep the intersections and entries are stable (which should not be a problem due to the relatively light overburden. The company projects this mining will result in the recovery of an additional 11,135 tons.

In the future, please notify BLM for review and approval prior to such mining outside of the approved Resource Recovery and Mining Plan (43 CFR Part 3482). This letter provides written approval of the action to provide for a lessened ventilation resistance. Also, as before, BLM needs to receive a copy of the results of the most recent ventilation survey and analysis.

This approval of a minor modification to an existing R2P2 is Categorical 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).

JUN 15 2005
RECEIVED

JUN 16 2005

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Acoring
6/15/0018
e-mail to Steve D.

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. The modification will achieve maximum economic recovery of the federal coal prior to the final recovery of mains and barriers (as practical from a mining engineering and economic sense).

The modification to the R2P2, as depicted on the attached drawing "1ST RIGHT PILLAR SPLIT AND ENTRY PICKUP" approved. 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

Enclosures:

Approved Mine Map
Request from Interwest

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

**Request For
R2P2 (Resource Recovery and Protection Plan) Modification
INTAKE MODIFICATION – 6th NORTH MAINS / 1ST RIGHT SUB-MAINS
INTERSECTION**

Date: May 27, 2005

Proposed Implementation Date: Immediate

Mine Name: Energy West; Deer Creek Mine

Lease Number(s): U-06039

Coal Seam: Hiawatha Coal Seam

Mining Area (Section): 6th North Mains / 1st Right Sub-Mains

Suggested BLM Inspection date and time: Per BLM site inspection of 05/12/05;
McKenzie (BLM) / Fleck (EW)

Current Approved R2P2 Plan: Per the approved BLM R2P2 - 3rd North Hiawatha
Seam; dated 08/25/04.

Describe Situation Leading to Request: In conjunction with development of intake portals on the outcrop at the extension of the 1st Right Sub-Mains in the Right Fork of Rilda Canyon, it was evaluated that additional development was necessary to make a smoother transition for the long term intake air course through the 1st Right / 6th North intersection.

Requested Change in Approved R2P2: Concurrence from the Authorized Officer to allow for additional entry development and pillar splits as per the attached drawing [approximately 1339' / 11,135 tons].

Effect on coal recovery: The comparison of estimated reserve recovery between the approved R2P2 and this present request is as follows:

- 1st Right Sub-Mains: (+) ~ 11,135 tons (entry + pillar splits)

Timing: The requested development was accomplished in April / 2005. Notification was made by the BLM Inspector (05/12/05) that this action by the mining company had to be documented by an R2P2 modification document with subsequent BLM Authorized Office approval.

Enclosures / Attachments: See attached map:

DEER CREEK MINE

1ST RIGHT PILLAR SPLIT AND ENTRY PICK-UP

DATED: 05/27/05; SHEET #1 OF 1

