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**United States Department of the Interior**

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

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*8/15/0018*  
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**DIVISION OF LANDS AND MINERALS**

**TELEFAX NUMBER (801) 539-4260**

DATE: 24 Aug. 2005 NUMBER OF PAGES SENT: 6

FAX NUMBER: 359-3940

TO: Pam Grubbaugh-Littig

FROM: J. McKenzie

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

*Have this!*

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AUG 24 2005

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THIS FAX PLEASE CALL (801) 539-4080.

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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3482, SL-070645  
U-06039, (UT-923)

**Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested**

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), Rilda Canyon  
Ventilation Breakout, Hiawatha Seam, Deer Creek Mine.

Dear Mr. Pollastro:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received on August 23, 2005, a request from Interwest Mining Company to modify the approved R2P2 by requesting a ventilation portal breakout in Rilda Canyon at the subject mine. The portal breakout is the extension of the 1<sup>st</sup> Right Sub-Mains, Hiawatha Seam, to a surface outcrop located in Rilda Canyon, Emery County, on Federal coal lease U-06039.

Interwest proposes a single portal breakout from existing mine workings (1<sup>st</sup> Right Sub-Mains) to facilitate ventilation requirements for the Mill Fork lease mine area. The previous R2P2 approval granted mining up to the surface of the portal area. Approval of a single portal breakout will alleviate some critical ventilation requirements.

Interwest's plan for breakout will be conducted from inside the mine and no surface effect other than the opening would occur. Site security, public safety and mine safety would be assured by the attached itemized plan for this portal breakout. Except as revised (and highlighted), we agree with the attached plan.

Recoverable reserves for the lease and LMU will not change. This is a change from the previously approved R2P2 as this area was to be mined at the end of the mine life and with a different configuration. Interwest requests this change to allow for continued longwall development and mining without stoppage currently progressing in the Mill Fork Lease.

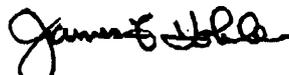
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The BLM has inspected the area a number of times (including 23 August 2005). As part of the March 11, 2004 submittal, Interwest showed new mining plans for the proposed Rilda Canyon portals, called 1<sup>st</sup> Right Sub-mains for portal access. Since this submission, alternative locations for other Rilda Canyon portals have been and are being evaluated. Though we agree in principle for the need for additional portals in Rilda Canyon and the use of 1<sup>st</sup> Right Sub-mains as the access for the portals, we will take no action in this approval letter for the additional portals (beyond this one ventilation breakout) until the portal locations are finalized are accepted.

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 the R2P2, as depicted on Map CM-10899-DR revised 3-9-04, is approved as submitted. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Rigby at the Price Field Office (435) 636-3604 or Jeff McKenzie of my staff at (801) 539-4038.

Sincerely,



Chief, Solid Minerals

Enclosures

Rilda Canyon Fan Portal Development Plan (as revised)  
Approved Mine Maps (2)

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

## RILDA CANYON FAN PORTAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

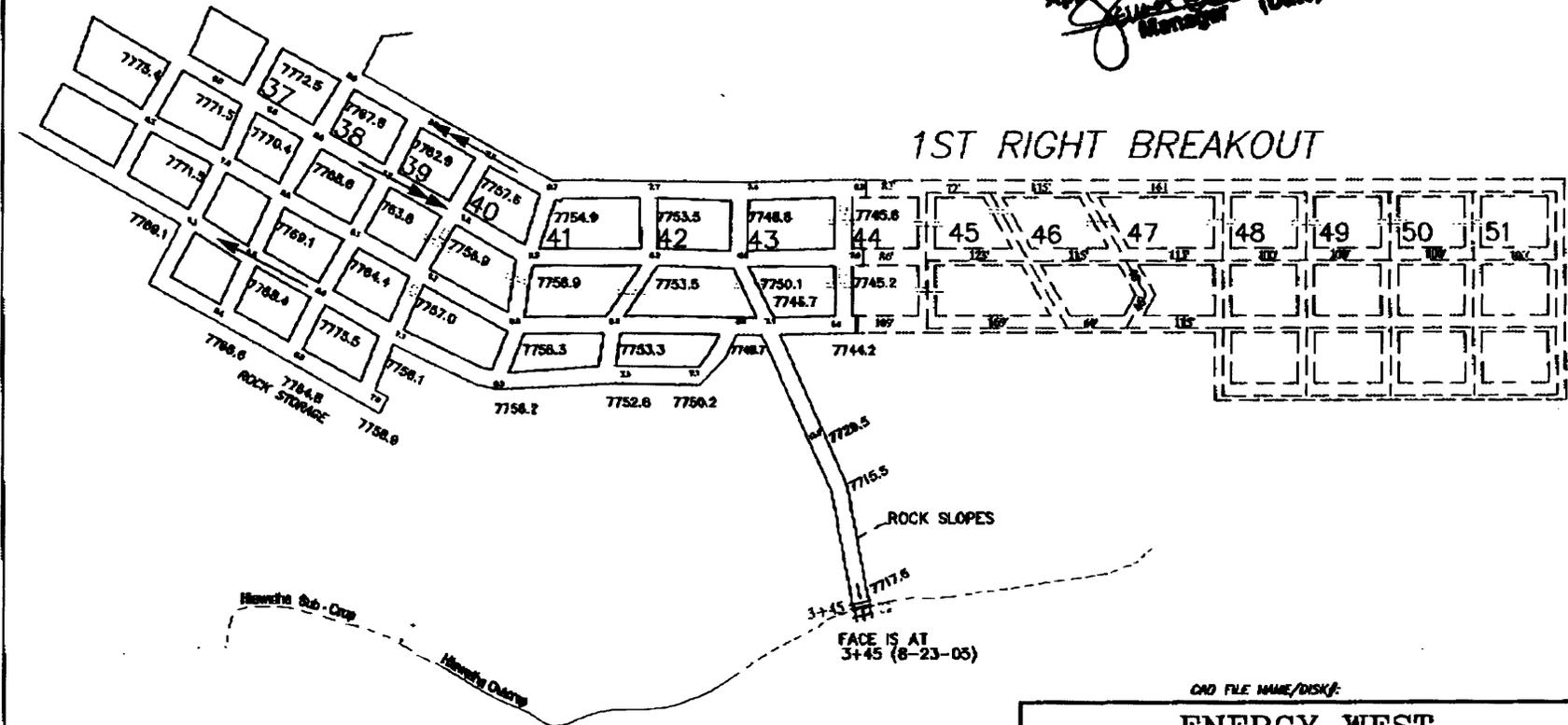
Energy West request approval to develop a single breakout in Rilda Canyon following the plan as outlined below:

- 1) All rock slope development will be from within the mine to the outcrop of the Star Point Sandstone.
- 2) Colluvial material encountered at the outcrop interface will be stored within the mine.
- 3) During the final breakout process, mine personnel will be stationed at the outcrop to warn/prevent unwarranted access and to monitor the area for any unsafe condition(s).
- 4) If any rocks are dislodged as a result of the portal development which impact public safety, Energy West will immediately rectify the situation.
- 5) Warning signs will be installed along Emery County Road #306 warn the public of the portal development process.
- 6) A temporary fence will be erected around the breakout area to prevent unwarranted access.
- 7) Silt fence will be erected downslope of the portal breakout to prevent additional contribution of suspended solids to the receiving stream.
- 8) Warning signs will be installed along the exterior of the fence, including; NO SMOKING, NO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL BEYOND THIS POINT, DANGER.
- 9) No equipment will be used on the surface except for hand tools to remove material to prevent unsafe conditions.
- 10) All slopes, ribs or faces of the opening or unstable areas in the surrounding area will be scaled and secured and supported before completion.
- 11) The exiting brow of the mine opening will be secured and the exit of the mine opening will be posted off with timber and fencing upon completion of the mine development.
- 12) No permanent structures will be constructed until Energy West receives approval from the Assistant Secretary of Land and Minerals at the Department of Interior.

MINING PLAN APPROVED BY  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By: *[Signature]*  
Mining Engineer (Date) *29 Aug 2005*

Approved By: *[Signature]*  
Manager (Date) *[Date]*



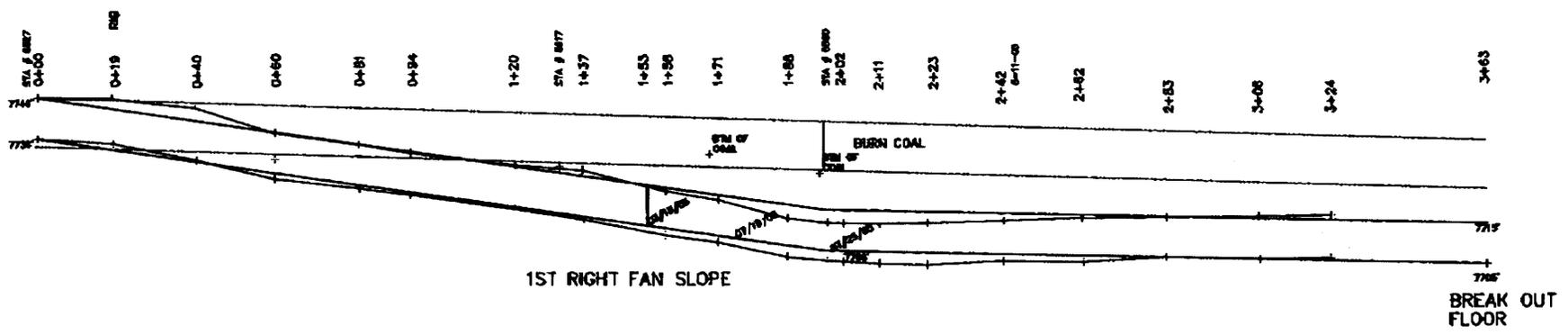
CAD FILE NAME/DISK:

<b>ENERGY WEST MINING COMPANY</b> <small>MUNTINGTON, UTAH 84528</small>	
<b>DEER CREEK MINE RILDA CANYON FAN PORTAL BREAKOUT - PLAN VIEW</b>	
DRAWN BY: <b>R. CULLUM</b>	<b>FIGURE 1</b>
SCALE: <b>1" = 200'</b>	DRAWING #:
DATE: <b>AUGUST 23, 2005</b>	SHEET <b>1</b> OF <b>1</b> REV. _____

**MINING PLAN APPROVED BY  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Recommended By: [Signature] 2/4/05 2005  
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By: [Signature] 8/24/05  
Manager (Date)



OLD FILE NAME/DISK#:

<b>ENERGY WEST MINING COMPANY</b> HUNTINGTON, UTAH 84526			
<b>DEER CREEK MINE RILDA CANYON FAN PORTAL BREAKOUT - CROSS-SECTIONAL VIEW</b>			
DRAWN BY: <b>R. CULLUM</b>		<b>FIGURE 2</b>	
SCALE: <b>NOT TO SCALE</b>		DRAWING #:	
DATE: <b>AUGUST 23, 2005</b>	SHEET <b>1</b> OF <b>1</b>	REV. <b>___</b>	