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# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Moab District  
P. O. Box 970  
Moab, Utah 84532

3482  
SL-070645  
U-083066  
(U-065c)

*ACT/015/019 #2*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

JUL 21 1992

*Does not meet DDCM  
Confidential criteria*  
**RECEIVED**  
*Page*  
JUL 23 1992  
*7/27*

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
Certified No. P 757 770 013

Mr. Steven E. Kochevar  
Mine Planning Administrator  
PacifiCorp Electric Operations  
One Utah Center  
201 South Main, Suite 2100  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104-0021

DIVISION OF  
OIL GAS & MINING

Re: Cottonwood Mine Resource Recovery and Protection Plan  
(R2P2), 9th Left Longwall Panel

Dear Mr. Kochevar:

On June 22, 1992, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received PacifiCorp's request to modify the approved R2P2 for the Cottonwood Mine as it applies to the 9th Left longwall panel. The affected reserves are located in the Hiawatha Seam on Federal coal leases SL-070645 and U-083066.

According to the approved R2P2 for the Cottonwood Mine, the 9th Left longwall panel's set-up rooms were to traverse the panel at crosscut 49. PacifiCorp's modification changes the approved R2P2 by relocating the set-up rooms to crosscut 46 (see Enclosure 1).

PacifiCorp cites several reasons as justification for the relocation of the 9th Left longwall panel's set-up rooms. They are:

- 1) At crosscut 42 in the 10th Left Tailgate entries, a carbonaceous mudstone band becomes a more pronounced, hardened rock parting. Within 800 feet (from crosscuts 42 to 51), the rock parting has increased from 0.5 feet to 2.0 feet in thickness. From crosscut 42, it has been necessary not only to extract the coal seam, but also the mudstone rock parting and a rider seam. In these conditions, panel development has encountered mine ash levels ranging from 25 percent to 45 percent. However, from outby crosscut 46, PacifiCorp feels they can support the immediate roof during the longwall mining process.

2) Due to multiple-seam loading conditions, the 10th Left Tailgate rib-line for the 9th Left longwall panel has fractured the coal and rock parting from inby crosscut 46 to the bleeder connection. The Cottonwood Mine's extraction procedure for the 9th Left longwall panel is to get under and support the rock parting to minimize dilution. PacifiCorp surmises that because of the multiple-seam loading, supporting the rock parting to minimize dilution from inby crosscut 46 is not possible and will result in an ash level of 30 percent in the run-of-mine coal product.

3) Because of the existing limitations of PacifiCorp's wash plant, the coal to be produced from inby crosscut 46 cannot be processed into a product which PacifiCorp can blend to meet power plant specifications of less than 16 percent ash.

Three inspections were made by BLM engineers to verify the conditions of the 9th Left longwall panel. During these inspections, the changing lithology of the coal seam, the deterioration of the rib line inby crosscut 46, and reports of high ash were confirmed.

To evaluate the possibility of multiple-seam loading conditions, overlays of the Deer Creek Mine were compared with the Cottonwood Mine maps. It was found that the 9th Left longwall panel area of the Deer Creek mine was not superimposed on the Cottonwood Mine. This condition is most likely contributory to the deteriorating rib line and creates a high probability that multiple-seam loading will prevent the supporting of the immediate roof inby crosscut 46 during the first 300 feet of advance on the 9th Left panel. Not being able to support the immediate roof, dilution of the coal will occur and an ash content of at least 30 percent will result.

To evaluate the logistics of blending, BLM engineers calculated the quantity of coal (with less than 12 percent ash) required to blend with the projected production from the 9th Left panel containing 30 percent ash. The calculations reflect that a 2:1 ratio is required to produce a product compatible with the power plant. With respect to the current production rates of the Cottonwood and Deer Creek Mines, this cannot be achieved.

The BLM has determined that the proposed modification does comply with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and stipulations, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. Therefore, the proposed modification is approved. By relocating the set-up rooms outby 300 feet, a reduction to the recoverable reserves base will occur. Approximately 56,500 tons on Federal coal lease SL-070645 and 18,500 tons on Federal coal lease

U-083066 are estimated. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed (Enclosure 2).

If you have any questions, please contact Gary Johnson, Chief, Price Coal Office at (801) 637-4584.

Sincerely

*Gary Johnson*  
for Assistant District Manager  
Mineral Resources

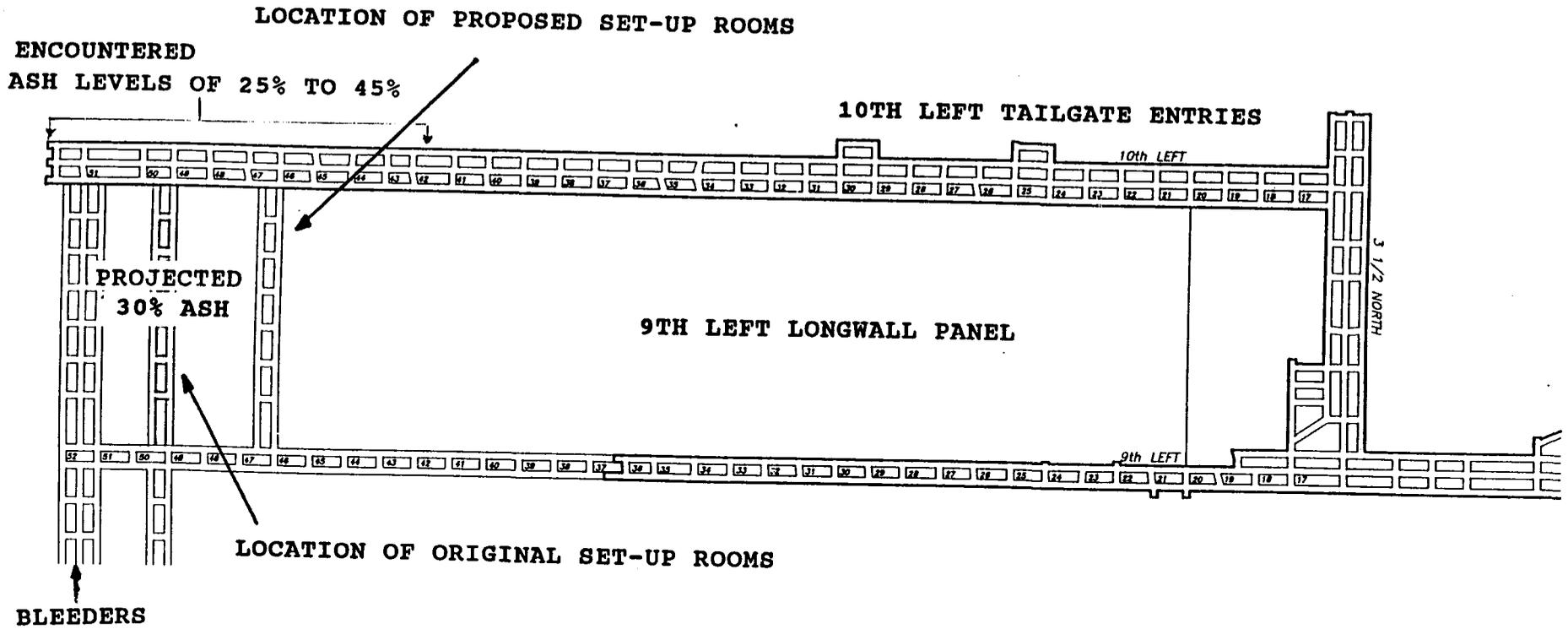
Enclosures (2)

- 1-Location of set-up rooms
- 2-Approved Mine Map

cc: DM, Moab (U-065) (w/encl.)  
SD, Utah (U-921) (w/encl.)  
x DOGM, Salt Lake City, (w/encl.)

ENCLOSURE 1

LOCATION OF SET-UP ROOMS



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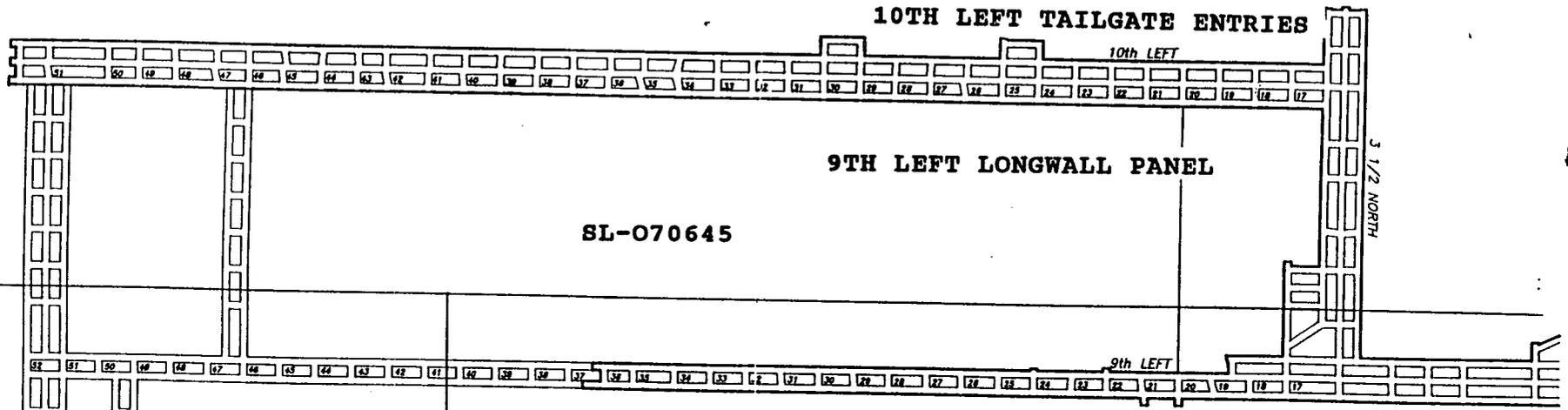
PACIFICORP ELECTRIC OPERATIONS  
FUEL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
P.O. BOX 28128 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84128-0128

COTTONWOOD COAL MINE  
R2P2 MODIFICATION  
SUBMITTED TO BLM 6/18/92

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NOTE: WORKINGS UPDATED TO 6/1/92

**ENCLOSURE 2  
APPROVED MINE MAP**



U-083066

**MINOR MODIFICATION TO  
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Recommended By:

*B Grosley 7/21/92*  
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By:

*Gary Johnson 7-21-92*  
Chief, Price Coal Office (Date)

NOTE: WORKINGS UPDATED TO 6/1/92

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R2P2 MODIFICATION  
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