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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501

ACT/015/025

3482
U-024316
(UT-070)

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SEP 11 2000

Mr. Charles Reynolds, PE
C. W. Mining Company
P.O. Box 1245
Price, Utah 84501

SEP 13 2000

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

Re: Modification to Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), East Bleeder Section,
Tank Seam

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a mine plan change regarding the subject area where coal in the East Bleeder section has become unminable. The high ash and poor geologic conditions have made further advancement to the north in the Tank Seam unfeasible. Verbal approval to discontinue north development in the Tank Seam was given based on the conditions witnessed at the mine. This letter is to finalize the approval and document the justification for discontinuation of development in the East Bleeder section of the Tank Seam. The requested change to the R2P2 is located on Federal coal lease U-024316 and within the Bear Canyon LMU now under review.

As the Bear Canyon Mine developed north in the Tank Seam the coal height became less and less. The East Bleeder section has been driven to a point less than 700 feet short of the projected mining in the LMU. The coal height is about 5.5' with an incompetent top which cannot be satisfactorily supported. In addition, a rock split has become apparent in the faces. The rock split, coupled with the contamination from the roof, has resulted in ash values as high as 19 percent measured by the company's "COALSCAN" ash analyzer. The company has stated that their economic cutoff value for ash is 18 percent.

BLM personnel observed these conditions during a current inspection and agreed with the situation. A verbal approval was given and this letter is to confirm the approval and authorize the mine plan configuration as it now stands. Drilling and adjacent mining have indicated that the Tank Seam is thinning to less than 5 feet immediately ahead of the current faces.

This letter confirms the verbal approval granted previously and constitutes our concurrence to the modified R2P2. The modification complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 3480, and the lease terms and conditions. All recoverable coal to the north of the current faces of the East Bleeder section has been mined and maximum economic recovery has been achieved.

File in: *C0150025 2000, Incoming*

- Confidential
- Shelf
- Expandable

Date: *09/11/00* For additional information

If you have any questions, please contact Jay Marshall of my staff at (435) 636-3614.

Sincerely,

Acting **/S/ THOMAS E. RASMUSSEN**
FOR

Richard L. Manus
Field Manager

Enclosure

Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-921, SD, Utah (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 (w/encl.)