



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

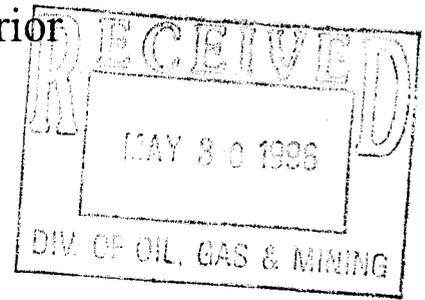
Moab District

Price River/San Rafael Resource Area

125 South 600 West

P.O. Box 7004

Price, Utah 84501



3482

SL-062648

UTU-68082

(UT-066)

CERTIFIED MAIL--RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Certificate No. Z 382 123 795

MAY 29 1996

Mr. Randolph B. Gainer
Environmental Manager
Genwal Resources, Inc.
P. O. Box 1420
Huntington, Utah 84528

Copy [unclear] and route to Gains Dave -
Act/015/032 #2

Re: Minor Modification to Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Northwest Longwall Block, Crandall Canyon Mine

Dear Mr. Gainer:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) responded to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining by letter dated February 20, 1996, with our concurrence for the subject modification. The permit modification realigned the longwall panels under Crandall Canyon Creek in section 1 of T. 16 S., R. 7 E., SLM due to perennial stream issues. The permit modification also included longwall panel realignment in the northwest coal block that needs to be addressed.

Genwal proposes to change the longwall panels in the northwest property block from a north-south orientation to east-west. To access these panels, a second set of sub-mains will be driven parallel to 1st Right. Longwall panels would be developed west off these new sub-mains, with the north-most panel mined first.

Genwal gives a number of reasons to change the panel orientation. First, the current longwall machine is designed for thinner coal seams. Projected life of the machine will surpass the current longwall block and extend into the northwest block. By changing the northwest longwall block to east-west panels, the first panel or two will be in the lower coal area to the north. This is more suited for the current thin to moderate seam longwall machine Genwal has now. The scheduled replacement of the longwall machine would be after the first panel or two. The coal seam thickens to the south, which would allow Genwal to purchase a high seam longwall for the rest of the block, thus recovering more of the high seam. The current longwall is not designed for deep mining. Overburden is less in the north area and increases to the south. Starting panels

to the north and working south would allow for use of the old longwall under low cover and the timed purchase of a new longwall for the deeper cover area. Also, orienting the panels east-west may improve roof stability due to mining parallel to the major joint orientation. To access these longwall panels, a parallel set of main entries to 1st Right is needed due to deterioration and poor roof conditions in the old 1st Right entries.

The BLM agrees with the change to orient the panels to east-west. All available data show the coal seam and overburden thinning to the north. The current longwall machine is more suited for the low seam and shallow overburden conditions of the north area. The old plan would require each north-south panel to mine from low coal/shallow overburden to high coal/deep overburden. Some of the thick coal seam in the south would be lost to recovery as the current longwall shields cannot extend much higher than eight feet. Genwal's proposal would also avoid some potential adverse geologic conditions. North-south panels would put the last west panel parallel to the Joe's Valley Fault where the actual location of the fault is not known and may not be straight north and south. By mining the gate road entries west to the fault, the location and the conditions of the fault can be ascertained and the longwall setup rooms determined.

The BLM has witnessed previous the conditions of the 1st Right. Poor roof conditions were encountered at the north end of the entries. Rehabilitation of the entries was not possible past crosscut 17 due to the poor roof conditions. These entries were not originally mined to be used as access to the western block, as Genwal only had control of section 36 and not section 35. Some rehabilitation of 1st Right has made use of these entries up to crosscut 15. Use of 1st Right past crosscut 15 is prohibited as witnessed by BLM personnel. BLM agrees with the need for a second set of mains to 1st Right past crosscut 15.

The BLM has determined that the proposed changes to the mine plan by Genwal constitutes a minor modification to the R2P2. Areas that are proposed for changes were previously approved for mining and changing the plan will not affect the surface environment in any different manner that has not been previously addressed.

The modification meets the requirements of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. Genwal's mining plan modification is approved as follows: (1) to mine new main entries parallel 1st Right past crosscut 15, (2) to mine the new main entries north to the limits of the seam thickness, and (3) to develop and mine longwall panels west off 1st Right to the west boundary or the Joe's Valley Fault, whichever is encountered first. The location of the setup room for each longwall panel can then be determined based on the conditions near the fault. Genwal is authorized to mine past the 50-foot west property barrier to the boundary, should the fault be west of the boundary. The approval is stipulated that any coal of minable thickness north of the last situated longwall panel will be mined by continuous miner, should the minable coal thickness line not align along the north-most gateroad entry in section 26. This letter confirms verbal approval to begin mining the parallel entries in 1st Right.

A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk or George Tetrault of my staff at 636-3600.

Sincerely,

PENELOPE J. DUNN

Area Manager

Enclosure

Approved Mine Map

cc: UT-921, Utah State Office (w/encl.)
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (w/encl.)
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

SURFACE OWNER: U.S. FOREST SERVICE

35
3rd WEST PANEL

MINOR MODIFICATION TO
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Recommended By:

Stephen W. Fall 5/24/96
Mining Engineering (Date)

Approved By:
Mark E. Bailey 5/24/96
Area Manager (Date)

MAIN WEST (DUE WEST)

T. 75
T. 76 S.

2nd WEST PANEL

2nd WEST

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 1999

LONGWALL FINISH 2001

LONGWALL FINISH 2000

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 1999

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 4th QTR 1997

1st WEST

LONGWALL FINISH 2ND QTR 1997

LONGWALL FINISH 3rd QTR 1997

LONGWALL FINISH 4TH QTR 1997

5th WEST PANEL

LONGWALL FINISH 1ST QTR 1998

LONGWALL FINISH 2ND QTR 1998

LONGWALL FINISH 3rd QTR 1998

4th WEST PANEL

LONGWALL FINISH 3rd QTR 1999

LONGWALL FINISH 4th QTR 1999

LONGWALL FINISH 1st QTR 1999

2nd WEST PANEL

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 2th QTR 1997

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 3rd QTR 1997

LONGWALL FINISH 1999

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 1ST QTR 1998

LONGWALL FINISH 2000

1st WEST PANEL

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 3rd QTR 1999

FINISH DEVELOPMENT 2nd QTR 1999

