



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Utah State Office
440 West 200 South, Suite 500
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1345
<http://www.blm.gov/utah>



RECEIVED

APR 19 2019

DIV OF OIL, GAS & MINING

In Reply Refer To:
3480 (UT-923)
UTU-81895

APR 16 2019

Memorandum

To: David Berry, Regional Director
Western Region, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

From: Kent Hoffman
Deputy State Director, Lands and Minerals 

Subject: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Federal Coal Lease UTU-81895,
Alton Coal Lease, Alton Mine, Alton Coal Development Company

As part of the Permit Application Package to add a new Federal coal lease UTU-81895 to the existing Alton Coal Mine Permit, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has reviewed the Alton R2P2 submitted on December 3, 2018. The R2P2 is required by the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 as amended, to assure conservation of the federal coal resource, meet maximum economic recovery (MER), and to diligently develop the Federal coal lease. This memorandum documents the BLM's findings for the R2P2. BLM acknowledges that there are additional lease stipulations that the lessee must adhere to as part of mining Federal coal on this lease.

Alton has or will submit mining and reclamation plans (R2P2 being part of the submission) to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and mining to add the Alton coal lease to its existing permit. The R2P2 is a life of mine document and includes the mining of the entire Federal coal lease UTU-81895. The lease will be produced using a multitude of mining methods including, surface, high wall (surface) and underground. Access to the lease will be from private lands currently in their permit. The following are finds by the BLM:

1. There is sufficient geological data which provide sufficient detail for mining planning.
2. The R2P2 provides for limiting the surface mining to 150 feet of overburden which meets the requirement of the Federal coal lease stipulations.

3. Provides for high wall mining to be conducted for reserves that cannot be mined by more traditional surface mining methods due to overburden limitations. This will be accomplished prior to moving to a new pit.
4. Provide for underground mining the deeper reserves.
5. Provides for meeting the requirement for MER using standard industry operating practices.

The BLM finds the submitted R2P2 in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 as amended, the lease terms and conditions requiring the R2P2, the regulations at 43 CFR 3482.1, and will achieve MER of the Federal coal. Therefore, the BLM recommends that the Secretary approve the R2P2 as part of the Federal Mine Plan

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Stan Perkes of this office at 801-539-4036.

cc:

Dana Dean, Associate Director
Division of Oil, and Mining
1595 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84111-5801

Kanab Field Office

Color Country District Manger