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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, Utah 84501

0038

3482
SL-068754
(UT-070)

Memorandum

To: Senior Project Manager Utah, Western Regional Coordinating Center, Office of Surface Mining, 1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, Colorado 80202-5733

JUN - 2 1999

ACT/041/002 #2
Copy Sarah

From: Field Manager

Subject: Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), West Ridge Mine, Andalex Resources, Inc.

The Bureau of Land Management has received and reviewed the subject R2P2 as part of the permit application package for the new West Ridge Mine. This mine encompasses Federal coal lease SL-068754 and associated Federal surface lands under our jurisdiction. This memorandum documents the Bureau's finding for the R2P2 and post-mining land uses as required by the laws governing the Federal coal lease and the public lands.

Andalex has recently submitted mining and reclamation plans for the new West Ridge Mine in the Book Cliffs coal producing area located 20 miles east of Price, Carbon County, Utah. As part of the permitting process, Andalex has submitted under separate volumes, an R2P2 and rights-of-way applications for the surface facilities off lease and the utility and road access to the mine site. The rights-of-way have been processed and issued. The R2P2 has been reviewed by this office and find it complete and technically adequate. Issues regarding coal recovery along the east boundary to unleased Federal coal has been addressed for future leasing. The project is compatible with the current land use plan and any post-mining land use concerns have been addressed in the right-of-way documents.

Therefore, the BLM concurs with the submitted West Ridge Mine Plan with regards to post-mining land use on public lands and the protection of non-mineral resources. Also, the submitted R2P2 is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the lease terms and conditions, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. We recommend that the Secretary approve the R2P2 as part of the permit application. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of my staff at (435) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Manus

Field Manager

cc: UT-921, Utah State Office
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