



# United States Department of the Interior

## OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Reclamation and Enforcement

P.O. Box 46667

Denver, Colorado 80201-6667

August 21, 2003

INCOMING  
C0410002  
cc: Daren ✓

IN REPLY REFER TO:

UT-0026

Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining  
Coal Regulatory Program  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
P.O. Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

RE: Canyon Fuel Company, LLC - "SUFCO Mine" - Abandonment of Mining Equipment Revision

Dear Sir or Madam:

This in response to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining's (UT-DOGM) August 20, 2003, request for a decision, under 30 CFR 947.30, whether the above subject permit revision constitutes a mining plan modification.

Mining plan approvals by the Secretary of the Interior are required under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, 30 U.S.C 181, *et seq.* before coal mining can occur on Federal lands. This letter serves to document OSM's determination whether or not a mining plan approval from the Secretary is required for the above permitting action.

OSM's review of the Abandonment of Mining Equipment Revision has determined that it proposes to abandon a longwall face conveyor tail drive and longwall face panline in the 1LPE and 2LPE gate roads to reduce the risk to miners at the SUFCO Mine, Utah State permit C/041/042.

Based on a review of the activities associated with the permit revision, OSM has determined that the proposal does not meet the requirements of 30 CFR § 746.11(a) and 746.18(d). Therefore, the proposed permit revision does not constitute a mining plan action requiring Secretarial approval.

Please notify the applicant of our decision on this matter.

OSM's decision was based solely upon the Federal regulations under 30 CFR § PART 746 and not the technical aspects of the revision application itself. Consequently, OSM's decision does not relieve UT-DOGM from coordinating the review and approval of the Abandonment of Mining Equipment Revision with other Federal agencies for compliance with other Federal regulations.

Please notify the applicant of our decision on this matter.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or approval, please contact Carl R. Johnston, Utah Federal Lands coordinator, at (303) 844-1400, extension 1500.

Sincerely,

*Ranvir Singh (Acting)*  
Ranvir Singh  
Manager, Northwest Branch

cc: Denver Field Division

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AUG 25 2003

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING